

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

HEALTH

Understanding dyslexia: what happens when the brain is blind

PLUS:

Bernard Levin, Nigella Lawson, Matthew Bond, Dr Thomas Stuttaford's Medical Briefing, Law and Your Own Business

WEDNESDAY

FASHION

Modern marriage lines for brides

PLUS:

Simon Jenkins, Lynne Truss, Alan Coren, Brenda Maddox on Media, and the Property pages

THURSDAY

FILMS

Mad Dogs and Englishmen and Elizabeth Hurley

PLUS: William Rees-Mogg, Books, Travel News, Body and Mind and the Economic View

FRIDAY

POP

Caitlin Moran on music and musicians

PLUS: The Valerie Goss interview, Bernard Levin, Clement Freud on sport and infotech

SATURDAY

THE WILD ONE

The Magazine's new columnist, Germaine Greer

PLUS: Weekend: Royal Academy Summer Exhibition tickets offer, Car 95: learning to drive a performance car, Weeked Money your personal finance guide, Vision, 7-days of TV and radio

THE TIMES AT 20p - YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

Tory leaders play down Thatcher's praise for Blair

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

CONSERVATIVE chiefs yesterday attempted to play down embarrassment over Baroness Thatcher's tribute to Tony Blair as the best Labour leader for 30 years.

They seized on her remark that she saw "a lot of socialism" behind the Labour front bench, "but not Mr Blair" as an endorsement of the Tory campaigning technique of presenting him as being different from his party.

Ministers are planning to seize on the Labour dispute over the imposition of women-only shortlists for parliamentary candidacies, the battle for the leadership of the transport workers' union and the threat of another rail strike as proof that "Old Labour" is alive and well in spite of Mr Blair's modernising efforts. "In that sense what Lady Thatcher is saying is in tune with one of our main themes at present," a senior Tory source said.

Even so, the former Prime Minister's description of Mr Blair as "probably the most formidable Labour leader since Hugh Gaitskell" was a gift to Labour and a blow to Mr Major, who has tried to at-

tack him as an insubstantial, "soundbite" politician. Ministers are preparing for more discomfort in a series of interviews given by the former Prime Minister to publicise the second volume of her autobiography, *The Path to Power*.

Her decision to express her belief, in an interview with *The Sunday Times*, which also published extracts from her book, that Mr Blair is a better leader than his predecessors irritated some Tory politicians. One former confidant of Lady Thatcher said: "She would deny it of course but her criticism of Major last week and support for Blair this week gives me the impression that she has now come to the conclusion that Major should go."

Mr Major himself rebutted her criticism. In an interview with the *Sunday Express* he selected policies on Europe, the economy and law and order, the issues picked on by Lady Thatcher, to defend his record.

Another former Prime Minister, Sir Edward Heath, also praised Mr Blair. He said: "Tony Blair shouldn't be un-

derestimated. He has a new face, too, and the voters like that." Sir Edward compared him to Harold Wilson, who first took power after a long period of Tory rule.

In the latest extracts from her book Lady Thatcher said she had not been prepared for the speed with which her position over Europe would be "entirely reversed". She said the Government should declare now that it was against a single currency, and that there was a strong case for amending the 1972 European Communities Act to establish Westminster's supremacy.

Paddy Ashdown yesterday appeared to respond to criticism from inside his party of his abandonment of Liberal Democrat "equidistance" between the two main parties by insisting that Labour did not deserve power. He told Sky TV's *Sunday programme*: "Labour, in its present position, is not fit to be trusted with the government of this country. Labour is still tied to the trade unions. Labour can't even have a democracy in its party, let alone be trusted with democracy in the country."

Maurice Saatchi may win Tories' account

BY LINDSAY COOK, BUSINESS EDITOR

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the advertising agency, is expected to lose the Conservative Party account to the agency set up by the agency's former chairman, Maurice Saatchi.

Jennifer Laing, chairman of the UK division of Saatchi & Saatchi, said last night that the Conservative account, which has been with the agency since 1978, was put in jeopardy by the personal association between Maurice Saatchi and Conservative Central Office. "There are great personal friendships there, and they may well choose to go there," she said on BBC's *The Money Programme*. "There are some contractual difficulties which we need to sort out."

She expressed confidence that other clients would stay with the agency, which is widely credited with helping the Tories to win successive election victories. Saatchi has already lost the British



Maurice Saatchi

Airways, Gallaher, Dixons and Mirror Group accounts to the new agency, called M & C Saatchi.

The agency has lost about 6 per cent of its world-wide revenues since the departure of Maurice Saatchi at the beginning of the year. Ms Laing said that Saatchi & Saatchi was aiming to cut costs. "We are looking at every single aspect of our business. You can always be more efficient. Advertising agencies can always be more efficient, and I suspect it's true of every business, and we are looking at all our costs to see if we can tighten up a bit."

Next month the company plans to issue a trading statement at the time of its annual meeting, which is expected to be "quite sombre".

Officials' pay sparks new union dispute

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FRESH dispute broke out last night in the battle to control Britain's second biggest union as a leaked memorandum suggested a pay offer was being made to top officials worth up to 11 per cent.

Bill Morris, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, declined to comment on the figure. However, Jack Dromey, who is contesting the election for the union leadership, pledged that he would take no pay increase if elected.

The memorandum shows that the pay of a top-grade official in the union could rise from £28,000 to almost £31,000. Mr Morris declined to deny the figure, saying: "The officers negotiate every year with the executive members and the executive council, and we have to conclude an agreement before June 1. We are in negotiations: I am not prepared to say precisely what we will offer until such time as I report to my executive."

He insisted that the issue was not about what the officers were paid. "There's too many people worrying about what the officers are paid. I want more of our officers

worrying about what our members are paid."

Mr Dromey, a close ally of Tony Blair and husband of Harriet Harman, the Shadow Employment Secretary, said: "Our officers and staff deserve the best but so too do our members. Personally, I will take no increase as general secretary and I will hand back Bill Morris's swish limousine and union credit card."

The election campaign also became embroiled in a series of accusations about rule breaches. Mr Morris said that he had submitted complaints to the union's administrative secretary about the conduct of Mr Dromey's campaign.

Mr Dromey has accused Mr Morris's supporters of using union resources to fund the Morris campaign. The Dromey camp claims union officials, who are supposed to remain neutral, were organising a £5,000 mailshot at the union's expense to distribute Mr Morris's campaign material to 20,000 members in the South West.

The union's 950,000 members must vote by June 16, with the result announced a week later.

Major in executive perks dilemma

John Major is facing a dilemma over boardroom pay amid signs that the Greenbury committee will recommend self-regulation rather than legislation to control abuses. (Philip Webster writes.) The pressure on the Prime Minister for tough action increased yesterday with disclosures that the head of the electricity industry's lobbying association secured a £500,000 bonus. It was also reported that Sir Bob Reid, former BR chairman, got a £75,000 bonus equivalent to a 60 per cent salary rise, which rail sector unions are protesting.

Ulster shooting

Police came under fire early yesterday from a suspected loyalist gunman in Belfast. The incident is believed to be the first time police have been shot at since the start of the loyalist ceasefire last October. A single shot was fired at police called in to quell disturbances in the Shankill Road area of the city.

Reforms backed

Two influential Labour advisers today back the NHS internal market. Writing in the *Fabian Society's Review*, Professors Brian Abel-Smith and Howard Glenister of the London School of Economics say Labour should resist the "temptation" to promise to undo all Conservative health reforms.

Heart baby dies

A baby boy died last night after a heart transplant operation on Saturday at Harefield Hospital in West London. Miles Parker, aged 18 months, from Crewe, Cheshire, suffered a congenital condition and was brought 200 miles by RAF helicopter from hospital in Liverpool for the operation.

Healthy surplus

Dr Deays Wells, a fund-holding GP in Walsall whose surgery has made a £300,000 surplus, is giving £10,000 to fund cancer research. The money will go to researchers at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, who want to test a drug called taxol, found in yew tree bark, as a treatment for cancer.

Times crossword

John Harding, 42, from Portishead, Bristol, has won the Bristol regional final of *The Times* Crossword Championship. Duncan MacArthur, 43, of Clifton, was second and Group Captain Peter Hutchings, of Wington, Avon, third. All three go forward to the national final in London on October 1.

Lottery winners

The owners of three tickets have won £6,624,951 each in this week's National Lottery. Twenty-four tickets each win £133,430 for matching five balls plus the bonus ball. Almost 900 winners will get £2,271 for matching five balls, and more than 66,000 will get £66 for matching four. Winning numbers, page 20

Major rejects pullout from Bosnia

Continued from page 1

agreement between Serbia-Montenegro and the Contact Group. This crisis must become the triggering factor." He was referring to a top-priority French goal of convincing Bosnia and Serbia to recognise each other.

With Western leaders striving to avoid a humiliating UN retreat from Bosnia, the position was endorsed by an emergency meeting of Cabinet ministers and defence chiefs at Downing Street last night which took place after news emerged that the 30 Britons had been taken hostage.

Mr Major had earlier made plain that his "principal worry" was the position of the 325 British troops of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers pinned down in Gorazde, 30 miles southeast of Sarajevo. He interrupted his Whitman break to return to Downing Street and went to the emergency operations room in the Cabinet Office to be briefed by Field Marshal General Sir

Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff.

From the Cabinet Office he telephoned M Chirac, who is handling his first big foreign policy crisis. M Chirac is understood to have agreed with Mr Major that keeping forces in Bosnia would stave off the threat of civilian slaughter.

However, they agreed, as did President Clinton in a discussion with Mr Major on Saturday night, that the UN forces must be better protected and their mandate strengthened. The rules of engagement could be reinforced by giving the right to shoot first when they feel they are under threat.

Mr Major made plain in an interview yesterday that he thought it would be wrong to order an immediate withdrawal. He told *The Mail on Sunday*: "I do not want them to leave. I am absolutely certain they are doing a worthwhile job. They have saved an awful lot of lives and their presence has held back the



Chirac: first big crisis

amount of fighting there has been. Quite simply, if they had not been there, many people who are alive today would have been dead."

Mr Major admitted that at some time it could become impossible for British troops to stay, but he said that was not the present position. Last night's meeting was

attended by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, Sir Derek Spencer, the Solicitor-General, and Sir Peter Inge.

It took place against a background of growing alarm among Conservative MPs about the escalation of tension, with many now favouring withdrawal. David Howell, chairman of the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, said that British troops should be "wound down to a minimum".

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Tory chairman of the Commons Defence Select Committee, said: "We must prepare if necessary to withdraw entirely from Bosnia if we fail to re-establish the peace process, which at the moment, I'm afraid, is looking extremely tenuous."

Cries for action, pages 10, 11

Scilly Isles burial for Lord Wilson

BY EMMA WILKINS

LORD Wilson will be buried on June 6 on the Isles of Scilly in the graveyard of a Norman church where he was a regular worshipper. The former Prime Minister, who died last week, found sanctuary on the islands with his wife Mary during holidays throughout his leadership.

The couple bought a house on St Mary's and attended services at the 900-year-old church of St Mary the Virgin for as long as Lord Wilson's deteriorating health would allow. The church can seat only 64 people and with a strong turnout expected from islanders as well as leading politicians from all parties, the service will take place in a larger Victorian church half a mile away.

The Rev Michael Phillips, rector and chaplain of the Isles of Scilly, who will officiate said: "You couldn't find a more

picturesque place than where the grave will be. Many island people will want to be there. The Wilsons have had a house here for 40 years before, during and after his years of fame. Whenever the House wasn't sitting they would be here. People got used to seeing the family. Lord Wilson was a committed Christian and attended the church as long as he was able - right up to last summer, I think it was."

The eulogy will be read by Lord Tonypanody, former Speaker of the House of Commons and the address will be given by the Rev Brian Meyers, the islands' Methodist minister. After the service, the congregation will walk from the larger church, past the Wilsons' bungalow to the graveyard.

Family friends said yesterday that Lord Wilson enjoyed a modest lifestyle and cared little for the material trappings of power. Although the cost of nursing had

taken its toll on the family's finances, the Wilsons had not been left in reduced circumstances, according to Lord Cledwyn, leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords from 1982-92 and a former Secretary of State for Wales.

"He couldn't be said to be in reduced circumstances because he always lived modestly. They were Christian people and knew how to live a simple life," he added.

Lord Wilson received an index-linked pension of £28,700 as a former prime minister. The costs of his nursing care were partly met by the council in Westminster, where the Wilsons have a flat. Philip Ziegler, Lord Wilson's authorised biographer, said: "The illness was very costly and by the time he died, he was pretty badly off but it's fair to say that he never was or wanted to be a rich man. That's why he was so incorruptible."

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SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Weekend marred by accidents

One man dead, one missing as boat capsizes

BY LIN JENKINS AND ROBIN YOUNG

ONE man died and another was feared drowned last night after their speedboat capsized in high winds and ferocious seas off the south Devon coast.

In other accidents that marred the Bank Holiday weekend a toddler drowned in a Sussex river, a man fell to his death from a cliff and a holidaymaker burnt to death in her caravan in Yorkshire. The two men in the speedboat, believed to have been on their way to a powerboat race, were thrown from the 12ft vessel by a large wave near the mouth of the Avon. They were named last night as Frederick Sims, 48, whose body was recovered, and his son Mark, 24.

John Tucker, an auxiliary coastguard, and his wife Jane witnessed the accident from the shore and saw the men launch a flare. "The boat turned to come back into the mouth of the river and a large wave swamped it. The seas were mountainous," Mr Tucker said.

Mrs Tucker, who could see the men in the water through binoculars, said: "A wave swamped the boat and the engine possibly failed. It capsized very quickly. The tide was going out and it was very choppy. The men were on either side of the speedboat, only just offshore. One was holding something like a fishing box but they were not clinging to the boat. They were just bobbing in the sea."

Teams of police officers

joined coastguard and RAF rescue crews to search for the men but conditions at sea were so rough, with winds up to force 8, that two coastguards were also thrown into the sea when their twin-engine rescue craft overturned in the swell within sight of the victims. The coastguards, Robert Whitting and Ian Pedrick, were uninjured and were later able to rejoin the search.

The dead man comes from Kingsbridge, Devon. His body was recovered from the sea by a rescue helicopter from RAF Chivenor. His son has not yet been found. The powerboat race at Torbay, which the two men were thought to be heading for, was cut short because of the rough conditions.

In the Western Isles a man fell 60ft to his death through a cliff hole yesterday in front of his wife and three children. The man, believed to be a 40-year-old tourist, was trying to retrieve one of his children's shoes near cliffs on North Uist when he slipped and fell through the hole in the cliff edge. A coastguard helicopter was scrambled to the scene near Griminish Point, but the man was found to be dead. Police at Stornoway said he would not be identified until relatives had been informed.

At Coombe Haven Marshes near Hastings, East Sussex, a woman was walking along a river bank with four children, three of which were her own,

when her two-year-old daughter slipped into the water and drowned. The child's body was recovered from the river and taken to the Conquest Hospital, Hastings, where she was certified dead.

In Ripon, North Yorkshire, a holidaymaker died when fire raged through a holiday caravan. Anne Mason, 47, of Golders Green, north west London, had travelled to a camp site near Fountains Abbey to take part in an English Civil War mock battle over the Bank Holiday weekend with her husband, David, 76, who was taken to Harrogate District hospital suffering from smoke inhalation. Mr Mason tried to drag his wife clear of the blaze. Police said the fire was being investigated but was not being treated as suspicious.

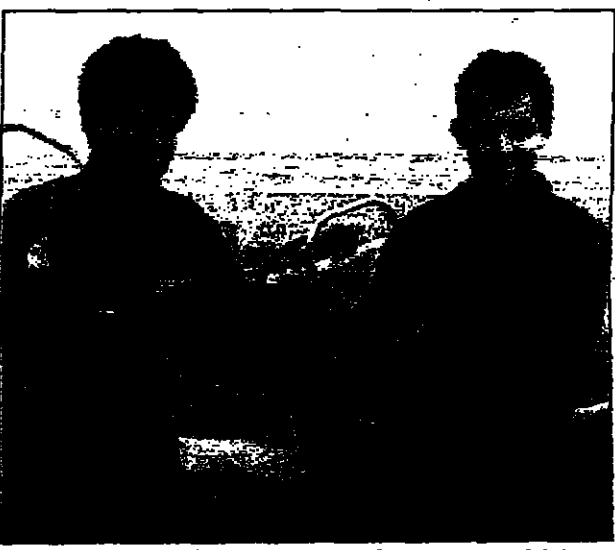
Off the Humber coast at Flamborough 10 people were trapped by the tide and six were led through the sea to safety by coastguards. A further four were picked up by the Flamborough in-shore lifeboat. At Sandsend, North Yorkshire, the Whitby in-shore lifeboat rescued two boys whose dinghy was being taken out to sea on the tide, towing them back to harbour. The lifeboat then had to escort a small powerboat in difficulties.

Heavy showers and cloudy conditions hit holiday takings on the Yorkshire coast though most resorts were crowded. At Scarborough, Flitby and Whitby traders said takings were poor because of indifferent weather.

In Brighton wet weather kept the resort unusually quiet. Beach officer Mark Carr said: "It been absolutely dead for the time of year. There's hardly anyone about. It's like a ghost town."

The London Weather Centre said last night that today should be a day of sunshine and showers over most of the country, though the south coast might escape showers and have a sunny day with only an on-shore breeze cooling temperatures to 17C.

Inland in the south temperatures could reach 20C, but winds generally will be more than 10 to 15 miles an hour.



Coastguards Robert Whitting, left, and Ian Pedrick. Their boat overturned within sight of the victims

Weather report, page 20



Oliver Parker: financing hinged on casting Kenneth Branagh as Iago

Debutant director to make 'erotic' Othello

BY DALYA ALBERGE

KENNETH BRANAGH is once again following in the footsteps of Laurence Olivier. Having directed and starred in his own version of *Henry V*, the young actor-director now heads the cast of a new film of *Othello*.

Some 30 years after Olivier took the title role, the new \$10 million movie begins shooting next month in a privately owned 14th-century castle in Italy.

However, Branagh will be Iago rather than the Moor. That part will be played by Laurence Fishburne, who appeared as Tina Turner's husband in the film *What's Love Got To Do With It*. "It is a mistake to use a white actor to play that part nowadays," said the director Oliver Parker, who makes his feature-film debut with *Othello*.

Parker, 34, brother of the actor Nathaniel, has worked as an actor for 13 years, with parts including Iago at the Theatre Croyd. As a director, he has made three short films. He spent three years trying to get *Othello* off the ground. It was not until Branagh joined the cast earlier this year that the industry began taking the project seriously. "He was instrumental in raising the money," Parker said.

The production casts both Iago and Othello as younger than usual. Parker said: "Othello would be 50, and Laurence is 33. Iago is often played older, like Ian McKellen played him recently. But the script says he's 28. We are keen to make it youthful and passionate. Passion is the driving force of the whole piece. I'd call it an erotic thriller."

Desdemona will be played by Irene Jacob, who played the model in *Three Colours: Red* by the Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski.

Parker admits that has taken "quite a lot of liberties", cutting the play in half and "moving a lot around". He said: "It will be two hours of steamy twists and turns."

"Where I feel verse is not necessarily contributing to the emotion of a scene, I make the dialogue more conversational. There's always a debate about how faithful you should be. This is bound to make some people unhappy."



Louise Crowe: stabbed

Man held over two knife attacks

BY ROBIN YOUNG

DETECTIVES were given permission yesterday to continue questioning a man about the murder of a New Zealand woman and an attack on a second woman. Louise Crowe, 23, who came to Britain from New Zealand a year ago, was stabbed repeatedly in an alley after leaving Turnpike Lane Underground station to walk to her home in Wood Green, north London, on Friday night.

She managed to reach a nearby house for help and was taken by air ambulance to the Royal London Hospital in east London, where she died three hours later.

A second woman was attacked outside the same Underground station on Saturday morning by a man with a knife. She escaped without injury and a man was subsequently overpowered by transport police.

Detective Chief Superintendent John Barker said: "In both cases the attacker was described as a tall black man." The man being questioned about the attacks is being held at Tottenham police station, north London. Magistrates have given permission for him to be held for another 36 hours.

Miss Crowe had moved into the house in Wood Green last week. Her boyfriend, whom she had known at school in New Zealand, was waiting for her there when the attack happened.

Wayne Elder, 21, a housemate, said that when they were told Miss Crowe had been stabbed, her boyfriend went and knelt beside her. He said that she was talking to the paramedics as she was taken on a stretcher to the air ambulance.

Miss Crowe's parents are understood to be flying to Britain.

Hunt for patients as routine check identifies dentist with hepatitis B

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

HEALTH authorities are trying to contact up to 7,000 patients treated by a dentist who was found by routine screening to be carrying the potentially lethal hepatitis B virus.

The unnamed dentist, who last worked in Lanarkshire, stopped practising as soon as the results were confirmed. Health boards in the areas where he worked were contacted six days ago and held an emergency meeting to authorise the search for patients. The Glasgow-based national infectious diseases centre is co-ordinating the hunt.

At a hurriedly arranged press conference in Inverclyde yesterday health officials played down the risks involved. Dr Andrew Fraser, the Highland Health Board's director of public health, said the chances of patients contracting the virus as a result of being treated by the dentist were "very small".

He said that all patients were being contacted and offered counselling and blood tests if necessary. A special freephone helpline is also being set up.

John Robertson, chairman of the health board, said it was working closely with other practitioners. He was unable to divulge the name of the dentist or the practice where he worked in the Highlands because of the stage of the investigations and the "sensitivities of the issue". The man worked as a community-based dentist in the Highlands between 1986-88, his first post after graduating. He later worked in Lanarkshire, Falkirk and Glasgow.

The health authorities involved had not planned to discuss the issue publicly until later this week when letters confirming the scare are due to arrive at the homes of patients believed to be involved. However, Highland Health Board decided to release details after news of the scare was leaked.

The board hopes that by Thursday up to 2,000 patients will have received a letter. Dr Fraser said: "There can be no doubt that the news that a dentist who worked in the Highlands is now found to have hepatitis B is a cause for concern. I would like to emphasize, however, that the risk to patients who were treated by this

dentist is very small indeed. "There are no reported instances worldwide of patients catching the hepatitis B virus from their dentist where adequate infection control procedures are in operation." He added: "We are working flat out to ensure that people who have come into contact with this dentist are offered the best of support."

Dr Fraser said that while the dentist had been identified as a carrier of the hepatitis B virus, he was not suffering from the disease. He added that the dental practice involved operated to a very high standard of infection control. A study showed there was no connection between hepatitis B cases already reported in the Highlands and the dentist. Routine tests were introduced in 1993 for all health workers.

Dr Fraser said the virus, while not related to HIV, was transmitted from person to person in much the same way, through sexual contact, intravenous drug use or contamination with blood or body fluids. The virus can cause severe liver problems and can remain in the system for years.

Father in maintenance dispute threatens to dump more lorries

BY LIN JENKINS

THE divorced father who dumped four lorries outside his former wife's home in a row over maintenance payments vowed yesterday to send her the remainder of his fleet. A spokesman for Kent police said yesterday they would take further action against him if they were not gone by today.

Mr Lambert, 36, dismissed his 15 staff at Gazewing Plant Ltd in Aylesford, Kent, last Wednesday after his ex-wife's solicitors demanded an increase in maintenance payments.

He told the drivers to take the trucks to the former marital home and leave them. He claims that he is now jobless and will claim state benefits and quality for legal aid in order to fight the demands of Caroline, whom

he divorced three years ago. "I just don't know why she can't accept the generous offer I have made her. I said I would pay her a salary of £18,000 a year for ever, just for doing nothing. But she then said I should pay her £15,000 legal bill and I refused."

"I just want to make a living like everyone else. But she wants to see me destroyed. Well, now I am going to sign on the dole, get legal aid, and fight her all the way," he said. "She wants to bleed me dry, so I have sent her half my fleet of trucks. Now I want to give her the rest as well."

The couple, who were married for ten years, have two children, Chris, aged nine, and seven-year-old Kimberley. Mr Lambert said he had offered them the family £150,000 detached home in



Lambert: wants legal aid

Leybourne. A spokesman for Kent police said that Mr Lambert had been asked to move the lorries. "I understand that there is a spare set of keys in the depot at Aylesford so there is no excuse

for them not to be moved. The matter is now in his hands and if he does not then we will pursue the matter further."

Neighbours who spent the weekend looking at the abandoned trucks expressed little surprise. They recalled him parking the lorries there in the past and sitting in the driveway in his car smoking a cigarette when he was banned from doing so in the home.

Lorraine Munday said: "He made the estate like the soap *Brookside* and always gave us all something to talk about. Everyone around here knows him as 'nutty Nigel', and I was not in the least bit surprised when I saw his workers parking their lorries outside the house. All I thought was, here we go again."

Mrs Lambert and the two children were not at home over the weekend.



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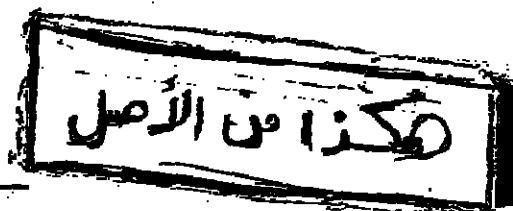
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American prosecutor expresses his envy of British media coverage of court cases

O.J. Simpson trial 'will vindicate jury system'

By Lucy Berrington

THE chief prosecutor in the O.J. Simpson murder case yesterday told a British audience to expect the former American footballer to begin a life sentence before the end of the year.

Gil Garcetti, the Los Angeles district attorney, said the trial would vindicate the much-maligned jury system and could be the last time that television cameras were allowed in court. However, if it produced a hung jury, the widely predicted outcome, the case would go to retrial "some what may", he promised.

Mr Garcetti, addressing the Oxford University-based L'Chaim Society at the St John's Wood Synagogue, north London, said: "I am confident the jury will reach a verdict. Maybe I'm wearing rose-coloured glasses but I believe something magic happens when juries begin to deliberate. They come together and want a level of unanimity." The Los Angeles



Simpson: murder charge

prosecutors have a conviction rate of more than 90 per cent in cases heard by juries but after a series of highly publicised acquittals, the Simpson trial has been touted as a test case for the entire American criminal justice system.

Mr Garcetti led the prosecution of Heidi Fleiss, the Hollywood madam who last

week was released on bail pending an appeal against a three-year jail term for running a prostitution ring.

He said: "I think you'll be surprised at the determination and ability of the jury to rise to the occasion. They will meet the challenge. The jury have been very attentive to the DNA evidence. I think they know what it means."

He said: "More and more it's discussed in my country: 'Have we outlived the jury system?' I'm hoping we have just come over the hill, so to speak. I think this case will end with justice done."

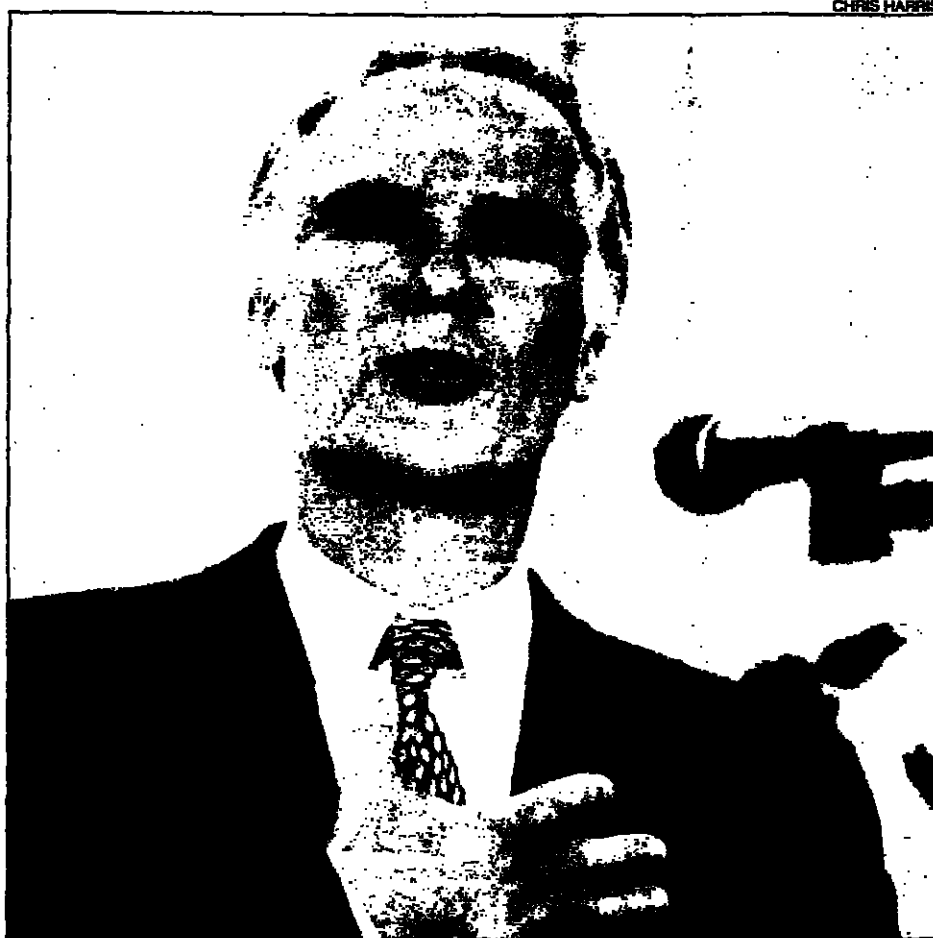
Nevertheless, the dismissal of an eighth juror on Friday has added to speculation that a mistrial might soon be declared. The Simpson trial started in January with a full complement of 12 jurors and 12 substitutes ready to hear the case against Simpson. There are now only 12 jurors and four alternates from an original pool of 24. Mr Garcetti took up the post of district attorney in December 1992

with a manifesto pressing for the restoration of faith in the criminal justice system.

O.J. Simpson is charged with murdering his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman. The prosecution expects to complete its evidence by the second week of July, and the case is likely to be concluded by autumn.

Mr Garcetti said that he shared the widespread concern that the Simpson trial had degenerated into a media circus with reporters sometimes paying more attention to the prosecutors' hairstyles and fashion sense than to the evidence. He envied the relative reserve of the British media coverage of court cases.

"If we could start all over again, I would certainly opt for something much closer to your system than a system which permits, on a daily basis, lawyers walking out of court to their fancy cars met by members of the media with microphones. I find that almost obscene."



Gil Garcetti: "something magic happens when juries begin to deliberate"

Brothers to lobby EC on gas safety

By Harvey Elliott

TWO brothers whose parents died of carbon monoxide poisoning while on holiday in Tenerife will press the European Commission in Brussels this week for tighter controls on gas boilers and heating equipment throughout the community.

Ken and Eugene Tansey will make a personal appearance before the Committee on Petitions on Thursday. Eugene, 35, from Manchester said they would be calling for an independent inspectorate to look at all aspects of holiday safety, including hotel fire equipment and the use of gas water heaters. They would also urge the adoption of a fire safety directive backed by tough enforcement measures. These could include taking action against tour operators who send holidaymakers to hotels or apartments where problems are known to exist.

The brothers' parents, Vincent 68, and Patricia 70, died in their Tenerife apartment when gas built up from a faulty ventilation flue.

English judges 'are harshest in Europe'

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

JUDGES in England and Wales are the most severe in Europe, frequently imposing jail sentences in cases where continental judges consider custody inappropriate, a report says.

Even in cases where judges from all countries consider that a jail term is merited, English judges tend to impose sentences "often well in excess of what was considered severe in other countries", the report says. The findings of the International Comparisons in Criminal Justice project come days after the furore over the jailing of David and Patricia Whitehead for lying to the police in an attempt to escape a motoring charge.

In one case, English judges felt that a young woman with no previous convictions who was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm should be jailed. Other judges thought she was unlikely to commit a second offence and suggested suspended sentences.

English judges were at the top end of a scale of suggested sentences for a man convicted of rape, kidnapping and assault, and for an offender convicted of causing death by dangerous driving.

The report is likely to strengthen the case of penal reformers that the use of custodial sentences is excessive. However, despite the Whitehead case, judges in England and Wales are frequently under attack for handing down what are seen to be overly lenient sentences.

The report draws its findings from three seminars that took place between 1991 and last year and were attended by judges from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, England and

Wales, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Spain and the United States.

Apart from the United States, judges from England and Wales imposed the harshest sentences and those from The Netherlands and Denmark the most lenient. The judges were given details of 18 real cases and asked to suggest the likely sentence.

The project found that English judges regarded certain cases as being more serious than did other judges. For instance, they viewed a rape by a man of his former girlfriend as seriously as any other rape, while other judges felt that the offence justified a more lenient sentence.

The report, published under the auspices of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, concludes: "The length of custodial sentences which English judges considered to be severe was often well in excess of what was considered severe in other countries." The exception was the United States, where judges were bound by statutory guidelines and minimum sentences that led to their suggesting jail terms "noticeably more severe than any of the other countries".

However, English judges tend to be consistent with one another, while other countries' judges showed greater variation. Another key finding was the concern among continental judges over the sentence discounts given by English judges in return for guilty pleas. This process has no part in inquisitorial systems, where judges "seemed disconcerted by the practice", the project found.

Imran hits out at marriage critics

By Emma Wilkins

IMRAN KHAN defended himself yesterday against charges of hypocrisy over his marriage to Jemima Goldsmith. In an article published in a Pakistani Sunday newspaper, the former cricketer said his choice of an English wife was not at odds with his criticism of the West.

"I have never blamed the West for our present predicament," he wrote. "I blame us [Pakistanis] for having allowed ourselves to be used by Western countries."

Khan, 42, who married the 21-year-old daughter of Sir James Goldsmith in Paris two weeks ago, said he stood by his criticism of the "Brown Sahib" elite who had been educated into imitating all aspects of Western culture.

"I have neither abandoned my culture nor have I decided to live in a Western country," the article said. "On the contrary, it is my wife who will be leaving her well-publicised comforts to live in Pakistan." The couple are to have a civil marriage in London on June 20.

The former Pakistan cricket captain said he had always wanted "ideally" to marry a

Pakistani girl because life would be easier with someone from the same background. "However, life does not work as we expect it to," he wrote. "It just so happened that the girl who shares my ideas, vision and values happens to be an English girl, and if my father, sisters and I are happy to welcome her into our family, what right has anyone else to object?"

Khan said he had expected adverse reaction from the British press but was surprised by the reaction of the Pakistani media, which had treated his marriage as a scandal or even a Zionist plot on account of Sir James's Judaism.

Jemima Goldsmith, who has taken the Islamic name Haqqa and plans to live with her husband in Lahore, explained her conversion to the Muslim faith in the *Sunday Telegraph*. "I am all too aware of the enormous task of adapting to a new and radically different culture," she wrote. "But with the love of my husband and the support of his family I look forward to the challenge wholeheartedly."

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New guidelines to allow dumping of 53 North Sea rigs

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

ENVIRONMENTALISTS are alarmed over a plan to wreck a quarter of the oil and gas rigs in the North Sea, rather than towing them away for dismantling.

The scheme, set out in government guidelines being circulated within the exploration industry, is intended to cut the costs of decommissioning the biggest rigs and platforms in the most northerly fields. It follows protests over Shell's plans to sink the Brent Spar platform.

New studies indicate that toxic muds, loaded with oil and heavy metals, could spread far further from obsolete installations than had been supposed.

About 400 rigs are nearing obsolescence. The guidelines

require that smaller ones in shallow water be removed but give the go-ahead for 53 big ones in deep water to be wrecked where they are. There are also 4,000 miles of pipelines, the biggest of which will be left on the sea bed.

Fishermen will be concerned that old rigs, scores of which are likely to be "toppled" leaving piles of twisted metal below the surface, may increase the risk of nets being snagged.

Toppling involves cutting the platform halfway up and pushing the top over onto the seabed. Earlier this month, Greenpeace staged a three-week sit-in on the Brent Spar platform which Shell is planning to dump in deep waters of the Atlantic. The group

claims that leaving rigs "in situ" or partly broken up is even more damaging.

Offshore operators claim that abandoning big rigs and platforms at sea is likely to be the most economical and environmentally favourable method of decommissioning, and that trying to tow them back to port for dismantling could endanger workers.

A spokesman for the UK Offshore Operators Association said yesterday: "Toxic materials will be removed from the rigs and a safety zone created around them of a kilometre in diameter with signal lights."

The first big rig to be decommissioned will be the North West Hutton, which is owned by Amoco. The company said yesterday that its research on the options showed that "toppling has the least impact". The North West Hutton, in common with many of the big rigs, has 25,000 cubic metres of drilling muds at its base.

Simon Reddy, of Greenpeace, said yesterday that the muds contained a mixture of heavy metals such as arsenic and chromium, oils and biocides designed to kill bacteria and marine organisms that can damage the drilling gear.

The Amoco spokesman said the muds were relatively benign. Taking the rig away could disturb them and spill poisons into the sea.

Mr Reddy said that toppling could disturb the muds. He also pointed to research by a British scientist at Oslo University which shows that even if the muds are untouched they are a risk to fish stocks.

It had been thought that pollution from a rig could be detected up to 15 km away. Dr John Gray's findings, to be published in the *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, has detected it four times further away. He has also found evidence that pollution expands for over a decade, and believes the pollution could be hitting stocks of North Sea cod. His findings are likely to be invoked by conservationists at the North Sea ministerial conference in Denmark on June 8.



Anthony Saxton, left, and Stephen Bampfylde at Westminster Abbey: they have donated their services free

Monks who mean business help Church to put its house in order

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

TWO part-time monks have been called in to help to take management in the Church of England into the 21st century.

Anthony Saxton and Stephen Bampfylde, one of Britain's top ten head-hunting firms, are seeking a replacement for Hector McLean, the Archbishop's appointments secretary who, with the Prime Minister's appointments secretary John Holroyd, leads the hunt for new bishops and archbishops.

Mr McLean is little known outside the Church but is one of the most respected and influential executives within it. The choice of his successor

will help to determine the shape of the Church of England over the next century because at least a quarter of the 43 diocesan bishops are due to retire before the end of the century.

Both Mr Saxton and Mr Bampfylde are "oblates" or lay associates of Alton Abbey, Hampshire, a community of Benedictine monks that runs retreats and manufactures altar wafers, incense and icons. They are donating their services free to the Church to help to find a successor to Mr McLean and to introduce innovative management techniques to the Church, where clergy still receive little training after

ordination. Saxton Bampfylde, based in central London, is one of the few wholly British-owned executive recruitment agencies and is among the fastest growing. Its client list includes more than one in ten of Britain's largest 100 companies. It also acts for local and national government appointments.

Stephen Bampfylde, 43, is married with three children; Anthony Saxton, 60, is married with five children. The appointment comes at a time when the Church is facing radical organisational change at the hands of the Turnbull Commission, chaired by Michael Turnbull, Bishop of Durham. At the

same time, membership and income is static or dwindling and competition from rival religious bodies increasing.

Mr McLean, secretary of the Crown Appointments Commission, the body that nominates two names to the Prime Minister for every vacant bishopric, is paid at the Civil Service assistant secretary's rate, which means he earns more than the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey. Mr McLean said: "We can learn a lot from the outside world. Good management is as much a gift of the Gospel as good worship and good education, and is not to be sneered at."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bodies of climbers found in ice floe

The bodies of two climbers, encased in an ice floe, have been recovered by rescue workers after they were spotted floating in a loch in the Cairngorms.

The bodies were confirmed to be those of Graeme Holland and Alan Mitchell, both 22 and from Keswick, Cumbria, who failed to return from a climbing trip to the 4,000ft plateau of Coire an Lochain on March 4. Melting snow is thought to have carried their bodies down the mountainside into the loch.

Firemen in crash

Anthony Burn, 47, and Gary Rowe, 37, were badly injured when their fire engine crashed and overturned in Titchfield, Hampshire, on its way to a fire at a mobile home. Three other crew were treated for minor injuries.

Man named

Police have released the name given by a man who abandoned a newborn baby in an Edinburgh hospital. Staff at the Eastern General say the man, who asked for the 7lb 10oz baby to be adopted, used the name Ian Young.

Journalists' sit-in

Journalists at the Irish Press in Dublin are staging a sit-in over the sacking of all 600 staff. Some 24 journalists vowed to remain in the building until the dispute, caused by the sacking of the business editor, is settled.

Theft charge

Dr Simon Heignes, a lecturer in music attached to Queen's College, Oxford, has been charged with theft after books went missing from a college library. They include a 1657 first edition of Isaac Newton's *Principia Mathematica*.

British triumph

Four British musicians have won the eighteenth international string quartet competition in the French town of Evian, beating 13 other groups from ten countries. The Emperor Quartet was awarded first prize of £16,000.



Japanese to kill more whales

By Nick Nuttall

JAPAN is planning a sharp increase in the number of whales it kills, to the outrage of the British Government and conservationists.

At this week's meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Dublin, Tokyo will announce that it will increase from 330 to 540 the number of minke whales harpooned each year in the oceans off Antarctica and in the north Pacific.

Yesterday it emerged that Japanese businessmen have also been negotiating with Tonga to set up a commercial whaling operation off its coast. Lucy Farmer, of the World Wide Fund for Nature, explained that Tonga was not bound by the global whaling ban since it was not a member of the commission.

British officials said that Japan's moves to kill more whales, ostensibly to screen them for pollution and to assess the age of populations, could not be justified on grounds of science or welfare. London is leading efforts to close legal loopholes used by

Japan to continue whaling. Conservationists said that the scientific argument was a cover for supplying the commercial whale markets in defiance of the global whaling ban.

Ivor Llewellyn, head of the British delegation and an official with the Ministry of Agriculture, said that they were calling for a ban on the electric lance, claimed by Japan to be a humane and effective method of killing. Mr Llewellyn said there was "pretty powerful evidence that the lance is extremely ineffective and cruel". It can take up to 23 minutes for the whale to die.

Mr Llewellyn said there was anger and irritation at the extent of "scientific" whaling. He said the research the Japanese wanted to carry out could be done by non-lethal methods and that Britain would call for an end to lethal whaling. "Legally they are in the clear because scientific whaling is not bound by the convention... but it was never intended for scientific whaling on this scale."



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Robert McKee, left, says it is never too late to start film-writing: Raymond Chandler was almost 50

Man who teaches Hollywood the value of economy

By Joe Joseph

AS THE streets of Soho refill this week with those returning from the Cannes Film Festival, many would-be Woody Allens who have yet to interest a mogul in their new movie or have yet to even write a movie — realise it is time to ditch their dog-eared draft, buy a new notepad and call in some professional advice.

The man they call is Robert McKee, an American who tours the world with his three-day seminar on movie-making. More than 20,000 have already been through the course, many of them twice.

"I get people with Oscars on my course," he says. "Most are showbusiness professionals. Not necessarily writers: some are producers, some are directors. John Cleese has taken it twice and he says he wants to take it for the third time."

A century ago writers wrote novels. Nowadays everyone wants to write a movie. "It's the hot form," Mr McKee says. "People think that because there are so few words, it's easy. But many are called and few are chosen."

"When people come to my course I don't try to delude them that anyone can write a screenplay. What is teachable is knowledge of the art form."

Mr McKee's course is called "story structure". "It's based on the principle that the reason for rejection of screenplays is not problems with

dialogue but problems with story. A writer has to master the principles of story-telling. The trick is 'extricating economy': saying the absolute maximum with the minimum of words or incident."

His teaching tool is *Casablanca*. "For my purposes it is the most illustrious film script ever. It has five sub-plots as well as the main plot. It has drama, comedy, music, murder, mystery, adventure, politics — everything I need."

"I dissect *Casablanca* scene by scene, line by line. At the end of it people are in tears — I've never seen a film that can stand that kind of autopsy and still have that punch."

But why are there still so many bad films made? "Quality story-telling, quality writing in film, or novels, or plays, is rare and it always has been. Tens of thousands of novels were written in the 19th century. How many do we now think are great? Maybe 50." But it's never too late to start. "Raymond Chandler didn't start writing films till he was nearly 50. I think a good case could be made that writing before you're 30 is a waste of time. It takes you 10 years of adult life to have anything to say and 10 years struggling as a writer to learn how to say it. Of the 400-500 Hollywood films distributed every year, barely 20 are written by anyone under 30."

THE TIMES Chance to be a Hollywood scriptwriter

The Times today continues its search to find the country's brightest and best filmwriting talent.

First prize is an all-expenses-paid trip to Hollywood with introductions for the winner to pitch their script to key executives at the major studios. Accommodation will be at the famed Chateau Marmont Hotel, haunt of screenwriters on Sunset Boulevard.

The first five runners-up (and the winner) will be given places at workshops run by the judges to help develop their scripts. Five more runners-up will each win a place on one of the UK screenwriting courses run by Robert McKee, among the best-known Los Angeles film teachers.

The competition is open to anyone aged 16 and over, writing in the English language, who has no feature-film credits in the professional cinema.

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Entries must be typed and double-spaced. A stamped-addressed envelope must be enclosed if you wish your entry to be returned. Send your entry to The Times Screenwriting Competition, PO Box 2248, Colchester CO2 8NQ. Normal Times competition rules apply; rules sent on request. Closing date for entries is first post on Monday, June 26 1995.



The competition organisers, and judges on behalf of their respective organisations, make it clear that any submitted entries are for the purpose of the competition only. In addition, none of these parties can accept responsibility or liability in respect of any future production which may inadvertently bear a resemblance to any treatment or script.

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Fashion classics found in children's dressing-up box



Pamela Plowden: "a taste for Oriental mystery"

DESIGNER dresses worn by Pamela Plowden, the first woman Winston Churchill fell in love with, are to be sold to pay for repairs to her stately home in Hertfordshire. Pamela, later Countess of Lytton, was widely regarded as a striking beauty whose dress sense was at the cutting edge of Edwardian fashion. She died in 1971 aged 97.

A collection of her rich silks, satins and chiffons has been found in the children's dressing-up box at Knebworth House near Stevenage. About 35 lots of elegant clothes, now considered fashion classics, will be sold for between £400 and £6,000 each at Christie's, South Kensington, on June 27.

Lady Cobbold, who married Lady Lytton's grandson, said yesterday: "The clothes were in four or five trunks and were pulled out for dressing up and Christmas parties. An American visitor saw one of the trunks and said: 'My goodness, that's an original Fortuny dress'."

"She said it was very rare and shouldn't be among children's dressing-up clothes so I rang Christie's. We are doing a lot of alterations at



Freya Simms of Christie's with part of the collection. Her mantle and stole are estimated at £400-600 each

the moment so the money will be useful for repairs." The 1912 Fortuny "Delphos" black pleated silk dress with glass beads has a £3,000-£5,000 estimate and is the top

lot among period clothes from the 1890s to the 1930s. They range from a black Worth coat from the 1890s to a pink velvet evening coat, also by Fortuny, from the

1920s and 1930s. One of the star items will be a silver lame bonnet with black horsehair plumes covered with silver sequins and rhinestones and labelled Paul

Lytton was a noted beauty who had exquisite taste, opting for bright colours rather than the pastels and browns and blacks of Edwardian fashion. These clothes are marvellous survivors from an age when society women changed three or four times a day. They give a snapshot of a great beauty with a taste for Oriental mystery.

Pamela Plowden's father was Viceoy of India and she was born and brought up there. Churchill was the first of many suitors. He was 21 and she 26 when they met in India in 1896. They were considered to be unofficially engaged but three years later she broke off the relationship and married Lord Lytton.

It was a leisureed, extravagant age and she became a prodigy of the Duchess of Rutland and part of a circle of beautiful young women later known as "The Corrupt Coterie". They led a hectic social life but during the First World War, when that was swept away, Lady Lytton ran a field hospital in Charles Street, Mayfair, and later returned with her husband to India where he became acting Viceroy. His brother-in-law was Edwin Lutyens, architect of New Delhi.

Budget cuts put 3,000 teaching posts at risk

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

MORE than 3,000 teachers will lose their jobs as a result of the budget cuts in state schools, a union survey discloses today. They will join 1,500 further education lecturers already facing dismissal.

School governors have raided maintenance budgets and cut clerical staff to keep classroom losses to a minimum. But the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, which conducted the survey, fears that the redundancies represent the tip of an iceberg, as thousands more teachers opt for early retirement.

Returns from more than 8,000 schools bear out ministers' claims that many governing bodies are able to meet the teachers' 2.7 per cent pay award without shedding staff. Only one school in ten has issued redundancy notices to come into effect for the new school year, in September.

An independent survey last month suggested that up to 12,000 teaching jobs would be lost following the Government's refusal to fund the pay award. Heavy hints from Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, that the current tough settlement would not be repeated, may have encouraged governors to risk a deficit.

But the scale of the job losses is certain to increase as the numbers taking early retirement emerge. Ill-health or early retirements among teachers are already costing more than £200 million a year,

and the figure is expected to rise this year.

Peter Smith, the association's general secretary, said the survey confirmed fears that class sizes would rise and that schools would lose many of their best teachers.

"Year after year, shortfalls in cash have led schools to cut the number of experienced, and therefore expensive, staff," he said. "Schools are facing the future with one, or even both, hands tied behind their backs as they work hard to meet the challenge of further raising educational standards."

The association is so worried about the strain being placed on teachers that it is launching a professional counselling helpline later this week. The service will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Several regions responding to the survey expressed concern about the size of classes in the new school year. One branch in the south of England expected up to 300 teaching posts to disappear even though there were to be no compulsory redundancies.

The squeeze on teaching posts is being repeated in further education colleges. The annual conference of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, which finishes today in Torquay, was told that 1,500 full-time lecturers and almost 8,000 part-timers faced redundancy.

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MEDICAL BRIEFING

Timely lessons for diabetics

THE mother and her unborn child saved by her four-year-old son who found her unconscious in an hypoglycaemic coma is an insulin-dependent diabetic who needs regular injections to maintain the correct blood sugar level.

On a previous occasion in the past week, Barbara Welsh, from Great Cornard, Suffolk, had needed first aid to restore her levels. Following this near disaster her son, Ben, had been taught what to do if he found his mother either unconscious or behaving oddly. Within 24 hours he was able to put this lesson into practice.

Mrs Welsh must have been unconscious for some time when Ben found her. He tried, as instructed, putting a spoonful of a glucose-rich jelly into her mouth. Mrs Welsh was too deeply unconscious to swallow it, or even the sugary solution which he tried next, so he carried out his final instruction and telephoned 999.

Ben's mother was in a hypoglycaemic coma, not a diabetic coma, caused by too much rather than too little insulin. The number of hypoglycaemic comas suffered by patients is causing

alarm to the British Diabetic Association and doctors who specialise in the disease.

General Practitioner magazine has recently reported that patients are to be taught that the lowest level of blood sugar considered safe is to be raised from 2.8 mmol/l to 4 mmol/l. Patients with a tendency to suffer hypoglycaemic attacks will be encouraged in future to contact their doctors if the level dips below 4.

The treatment of hypoglycaemia is with sweet drinks or with sugar followed by a balanced meal. Families of patients whose diabetic control is unstable are sometimes issued with glucagon injections. When given to a patient whose coma has not been too prolonged the liver is encouraged to release enough sugar into the bloodstream to enable them to be roused sufficiently to swallow some sugar. Intravenous glucose is the emergency treatment provided by medical staff. It produces a miraculous recovery, as in the case of Mrs Welsh, who is now home and in good health.

DR THOMAS
STUTTAFORD

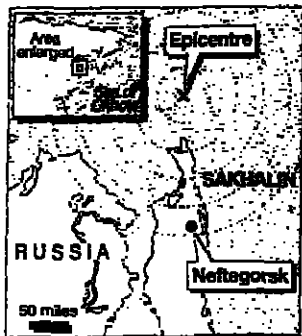
Thousands feared dead in quake on Russian island

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA yesterday mounted an emergency operation in a remote island in the Far East, after a powerful earthquake devastated a small town killing possibly thousands of people.

Reports from the Pacific island of Sakhalin said that 80 per cent of the buildings in the northern oil-producing town of Neftegorsk had been destroyed by a tremor measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale.

Initially, the Ministry of Emergency Situations reported that 39 bodies, including six children, had been pulled from the rubble of their homes after the earthquake struck on Saturday night. However, Tass, quoting civil defence workers from Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, the regional capital, said that 19 five-storey blocks of flats had been flattened and it was feared that the death toll could rise to 3,000. Officials have confirmed only 70 deaths and about 200 injuries. "Judg-



homes and were reportedly wandering around in a state of shock. The remainder have been listed as missing.

Sakhalin island, north of Japan's Hokkaido island, is eight time zones and 4,500 miles east of Moscow. The greatest problem facing rescue workers was getting to the scene of the disaster. Paramedics and rescuers from across Siberia were dispatched, but it is likely to take days for sufficient numbers of people and equipment to reach the site.

Communications with Neftegorsk were cut. The nearest airstrip is hours away by road and much of the assistance is being sent via Vladivostok, about 1,000 miles to the south. The 200 rescuers who had managed to reach the town over the weekend complained that freezing temperatures, thick fog and powerful aftershocks were hampering their efforts.



Demonstrators march on Peking's de facto embassy in Hong Kong yesterday prior to the sixth anniversary of the crushing of the pro-democracy movement in Tiananmen Square

China cancels US talks over visit by Taiwan leader

BY TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IN ITS sharpest retaliation against American policy towards Taiwan, China suspended talks with the United States yesterday and postponed visits by senior US officials.

The Foreign Ministry in Peking, reacting to Washington's decision last week to allow a private visit to New York state's Cornell University by President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, shelved Sino-American talks on the global Missile Technology Control Regime and on nuclear energy co-operation.

Planned visits to China by John Holm, director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, next month and by a State Department official in July would also be suspended.

Sixteen years ago, the United States withdrew diplomatic recognition from Taiwan in deference to China, which considers the island an illegitimate, breakaway republic. Only a week after President Clinton had said he would continue the policy by refusing a visa for Mr Lee, he changed his mind. Bowing to fierce Republican pressure in Congress, which voted strongly in favour of allowing the Taiwanese leader to visit the university where he gained a doctorate in 1968, Mr Clinton then said Mr Lee could take part in the campus reunion next month.

Peking said the decision was a serious infringement of sovereignty and a breach of its "one China" policy. The Chinese Government has already cancelled three visits to Washington by officials, including Chi Haotian, the Defence Minister, and warned yesterday of further reprisals if Mr Lee's visa was not rescinded.

Several experts in the State Department had warned the President that the issue could cause lasting damage to Sino-American relations at a time when the Administration has shown signs of a diplomatic warming towards Peking.

Although American arms sales to China were stopped after the Tiananmen Square uprising in 1989, Mr Clinton last year extended preferential

trading status to the Chinese in exchange for an agreement by Peking not to export certain weapons.

The White House had been keen to avoid any diplomatic conflict with Peking, but has been forced to accept the overwhelming congressional support for Mr Lee's visit. The Administration has told the Chinese that Congress might adopt a binding resolution requiring the President to both grant a visa and upgrade US relations with Taiwan.

China and Taiwan agreed yesterday to hold the first top-level talks in two years to revive the faltering dialogue between them. After two days of talks, delegates from both sides announced that chairmen of semi-official groups representing Taiwan and China will meet in Peking in July to seek agreements on the repatriation of hijackers and illegal immigrants, and fishing disputes.

In Hong Kong yesterday, more than 2,000 people marched to Peking's de facto embassy to protest against the crushing of the Tiananmen Square democracy protests six years ago. They demanded the release of Chinese dissidents. Waving banners saying "Remember June 4" and chanting "Release Wang Dan", a leader during the 1989 student democracy movement, the marchers walked to the offices of the New China News Agency, Peking's representative in Hong Kong. They placed a funeral wreath in front of the agency's gate.



Lee, granted visa for university reunion

PLO stakes claim to west Jerusalem

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

JEW and Arabs yesterday both laid impassioned claim to Jerusalem on a day set aside annually by Israel for triumphal marches to mark its conquest of the east side of the holy city in the 1967 war.

Faisal Husseini, the leading Palestine Liberation Organisation official in Jerusalem, called on the Israelis to hand back land and property which he said belonged to the Arabs in the mainly Jewish west of the city — which Israel declared as its capital the year after the foundation of the Jewish state in 1948. Mr Husseini's claim added a new dimension to what Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, Israel's Housing Minister has called "the new battle for Jerusalem".

Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, angrily dismissed the new PLO territorial demands as "baseless". In a rare live broadcast from the weekly Cabinet meeting in west Jerusalem, Mr Rabin pledged that Israel would, if necessary, use violence to uphold its claim that Jerusalem is the undivided capital of the Jewish state. Mr Rabin, who last week was humiliated when the handful of Israeli Arab deputies in the Knesset forced him to abandon plans to seize 133 acres of mainly Arab land in east Jerusalem, told his ministers: "The Government will act to reinforce the status of a united

Jerusalem as the capital of Israel only, and will fight any attempt to hurt this status."

Among Palestinians in east Jerusalem, the mood was sullen and resentful as crowds of Israelis waving the Star of David celebrated the 1967 conquest. At a protest outside PLO headquarters in the east of the city, Sari Nusseibeh, a leading Palestinian activist, showed why the Jerusalem issue is likely to sabotage the peace process when it comes up for negotiation next May. "Jerusalem is our eternal capital. There is no peace without Jerusalem being returned."

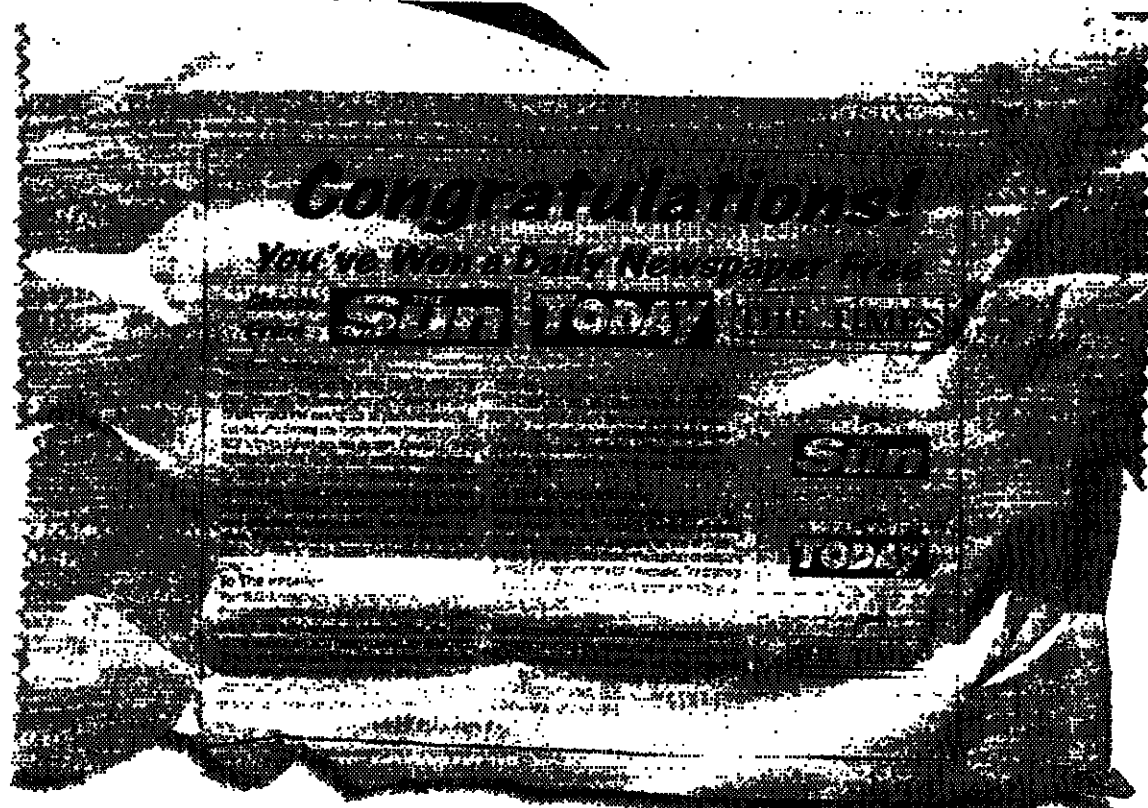
Maximum security was in force in the city because of fears that the Arabs would mark the occasion with a suicide attack, while many of the Israelis who converged on the city carried weapons.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, confirmed their commitment to meeting a July 1 deadline for agreement on expanding Palestinian autonomy. They issued a communiqué yesterday after meeting in Rabat.

Extremists held: Police in Jerusalem detained 12 Jewish extremists who tried to force their way on to the Muslim-controlled Temple Mount. About 100 Jews attempted to storm two entrances to the site.

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TOKEN 2

By JONATHAN EVAL

COMMENTARY

THE capture of British hostages in Bosnia yesterday has confirmed the worst scenario of the most pessimistic ministers in Whitehall. For more than two years, the Government felt justifiably proud of the professionalism of its troops and the protection measures which the Ministry of Defence implemented. The Chiefs of Staff in London armed the troops with heavier equipment than is usual for United Nations operations. Their rules of engagement were clearer, and the British contingent also had a relatively safe supply line.

Hostages will be returned unharmed. Even by the warped logic of the Yugoslav war, the current crisis is extraordinary. The main culprits for the impasse are the Americans, who pushed for the airstrikes last week without thinking ahead. The Europeans were always aware that airstrikes could be credible only if the UN was prepared to ratchet up its involvement to an all-out land offensive if necessary.

The Serbs know that the airstrikes were intended to avoid a commitment and defuse the clamour for greater action. The Serbs' reaction, a replica of their behaviour during the airstrikes last year, was therefore predictable, and so will be the West's response. The

current flurry of activity is connected less to the situation on the ground than about squaring Washington's political calculations with the predicament of the Europeans. The Clinton Administration has spent the last two years denigrating the international presence in Bosnia. The countries contributing forces soldiered on, calculating that the operation, although disastrous, was more palatable than any alternative. They are no longer so sure, mainly because all the protagonists are interested in a UN presence in order to continue the war, rather than settle the conflict. More importantly, everyone realises that whatever is done, the UN operation is unlikely to be seen as heroic: feeding people so that

they may be shot with full stomachs is never a very convincing endeavour. With more fighting guaranteed this summer, the UN was at last ready to contemplate withdrawal. President Clinton has realised that the current confusion in Bosnia suits him well. Officially, he continues to uphold the principle of a united Bosnian state. In practice, he does nothing more than table UN resolutions, upholding all the principles, with none of the responsibilities.

The Bosnian Government, however, is aware that such a stalemate is not in its interest. President Izetbegovic has therefore refused the renewal of a ceasefire and Bosnian troops were responsible as much as the Serbs for the current fighting. It is a game that the Bosnian President knows he cannot lose: although the UN can call airstrikes against any party, in practice, public opinion allows attacks against the Serbs alone. When fighting intensifies, pressure for "action" grows in the Republican-controlled Congress until the UN allows some airstrikes. Such attacks are therefore more connected with voting patterns in Washington than with the situation in Yugoslavia.

A crisis meeting of the Contact Group, representing Britain, France, Germany, America and Russia is taking place today in order to take stock of the situation. However, the group now resembles the Berlin congress last century: an irrelevant collection of self-important states eager to tell the people of the Balkans what they need to do, but seemingly powerless to impose their decision on the region.

Germany and America have almost no troops on the ground but have many ideas about what could be done with someone else's soldiers: Britain and France contribute the majority of the troops but have no idea what these should do, while Russia resembles an unruly cat, willing to scratch but just as determined to scratch if necessary. In the sure knowledge that, either way, feeding time is just around the corner.

Despite all the possible permutations, the options facing the UN are rather obvious. Launching a rescue operation is virtually impossible. The British troops could be regrouped in central Bosnia, but this will intensify the fighting. The Serbs know that executing hostages will provide the West with a reason for greater action. If new air attacks are launched, the Serbs will hide the hostages, leaving governments to guess whether they are alive or dead, and intensifying the dispute between America and the Europeans. The Serb aim is to humiliate the West a bit, but not to much: to discredit the idea of airstrikes once and for all, but keep an unscathed UN presence in Yugoslavia. For this serves their purpose.

Cries grow for action on UN mission impossible

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NATO

THE cries for either military action against the Serbs or the pullout of UN forces from Bosnia-Herzegovina grew ever louder yesterday, as despairing foreign ministers prepared to leap from one crisis meeting to another to decide what to do next.

For those who view Bosnia in black and white terms, there appear to be only two options: going to war with the Serbs or giving up. But the UN will do neither. There has never been any question of intervening militarily in Bosnia and, despite the latest defiance from the Serbs, "going to war" is not under consideration.

Giving up is theoretically an option but not seriously favoured by any of the countries who have contributed troops, not even France, which has borne the brunt of the casualties. No one wants to be seen fleeing the country with the jeers of the Serbs and protests of the Muslims ringing in their ears.

For the foreign ministers meeting in Brussels and The Hague today and at Noordwijk in The Netherlands tomorrow, the focus has to be on the safety of the 23,500 UN Protection Force (Unprofor) troops assigned to Bosnia. If UN soldiers, supposedly only serving in the former Yugoslav republic to save lives and promote peace, can be taken hostage, beaten up and humiliated with impunity, it is the responsibility of the gov-

ernments that sent them there to do more than just condemn the acts in communiqués.

However, the lessons of Somalia should not be forgotten. The Americans arrived there with far more firepower than the UN troops have in Bosnia. They deployed Apache attack helicopters as well as tanks, and their rules of engagement allowed a more liberal interpretation of self-defence. Yet they still faced humiliation at the hands of the Somali warlords.

The foreign ministers of the European Union, the five-nation Contact Group and the North Atlantic Council of Nato are meeting after a weekend of violence in Bosnia which will be widely seen as a

turning point in the ill-fated peacekeeping operation.

For the past two and a half years, the Serbs have mostly held the upper hand when dealing with Unprofor because the UN soldiers have not been allowed to mount offensive operations. If a Serb raised his Kalashnikov at a checkpoint and refused permission for a convoy to go past, Unprofor invariably turned round and went back to base. When Unprofor hostages were taken on previous occasions, there was no mandate for gaining their release by force.

However, the order by Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, the Unprofor commander in Bosnia, to fight back, and the subsequent successful recapture of the Vrbanja bridge in Sarajevo yesterday by 50

French Marines, demonstrated to the Serbs and to the West's politicians that the dangerously fragile line between peacekeeping and peace enforcement has been crossed.

The order from General Smith will help to force the hand of the foreign ministers at their meetings to discuss the latest crisis. Conscious that Unprofor had been yielding to Serb blackmail for too long, General Smith has effectively changed the rules of engagement from self-defence to positive action. He has done so, however, without changing the UN mandate which allows its troops to use all necessary means to carry out their mission.

Now any show of political dithering by Nato foreign ministers or by the UN Security Council will only play into the hands of the Serbs who have always shown skill in exploiting the West's weaknesses.

However, divisions among the main players make resolute action unlikely. Russia has complained that it was not told about last week's Nato airstrikes, and favours the diplomatic, negotiated approach. Russia's Western partners cannot afford to sideline Moscow because its help is needed to put whatever pressure it can on Serbia, and through Belgrade to the Bosnian Serbs in Pale.

Leading article and letters, page 17



Bosnian Serb soldiers on a forested hill above Gorazde. Their presence is a continuing threat to the "safe area"

Britons caught in scenic danger zone

By MICHAEL EVANS

GORAZDE

GORAZDE, the scene of yesterday's kidnap of 33 British soldiers, is one of the most beautiful and most dangerous locations for the United Nations troops. Sitting aside the Drina river on the main road from the Dalmatian coast to Belgrade, Gorazde has been at the centre of some of the biggest dramas of the Bosnian war.

For UN troops assigned to this east Bosnian Muslim enclave, one of the so-called "safe areas", Gorazde has been a symbol of all the worst ingredients of the war: persistent firefights with Serbs, poor lines of communication, unreliable food and fuel supplies and, above all, the feeling of being isolated.

If there were an order to withdraw the UN troops from Bosnia, those in Gorazde — among them, it is understood, some SAS soldiers — would

face one of the most difficult evacuations. Gorazde is approached along a circuitous route from Sarajevo, which passes through a Serb checkpoint at Rogatica, east of the capital, controlled by one of the toughest and most obstructive Serb warlords in the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The checkpoint consists of a single barrier but Rogatica has been the focus of some unpleasant and potentially dangerous confrontations between British UN troops and the Serbs.

In November last year, 13

Royal Engineers were detained at Rogatica for about a week. The nearest checkpoint to Gorazde is at Ustipraka, where more than 40 members of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment were held by the Serbs for five days, also last November.

Beyond Rogatica, there is a no man's land in rugged wooded hills that is littered with destroyed cars and trucks. Gunmen in the trees shoot across the ridges. On the slopes leading down from Serb lines to Gorazde, there are rows of blackened, roofless houses, a familiar scene in so many parts of Bosnia.

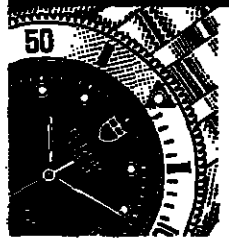
Gorazde itself, which has a population of about 65,000, is set in a picturesque mountainous area. The town, surrounded by hills, was the last Muslim-held outpost east of Sarajevo. It was sealed after a long siege by the Serbs who rained artillery shells on the town until a truce was called and the UN moved in as guardians.

The British took over duties in Gorazde last year, as well as their other functions in central Bosnia, and it immediately became clear that this east Bosnian Muslim enclave would be for the British soldiers one of the most onerous and dangerous assignments.

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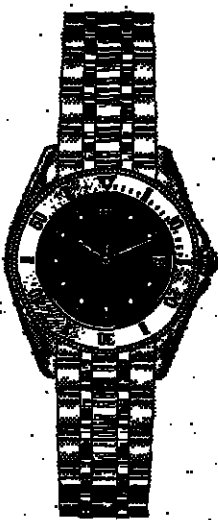
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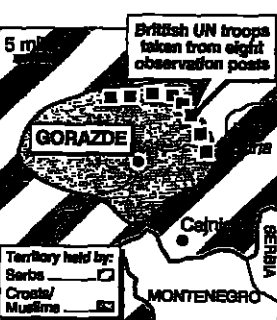
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US team reviews policy

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton foreign policy team met at the White House yesterday to review a crisis which has left America on the sidelines.

Although the United States has been the most vocal proponent of airstrikes, the hostage-taking of United Nations peacekeepers by Bosnian Serbs has undermined American attempts to drive allied policy in the region.

The talks between Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, Anthony Lake, the National Security Adviser, and William Perry, the Defence Secretary, concerned the five-nation Contact Group meeting in The Hague today.

President Clinton, who had telephoned John Major and President Chirac on Saturday to call for a more muscular approach to the UN mission, was not at the meeting.

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NEW YORK (AP)

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TOKEY

Right wing heads for victory in Spanish local elections but Socialists are ready to do a deal

González banks on faithful to save his face at polls

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID



González determined to hold on to power

SPAIN'S minority Socialist Government was hoping that a good turnout in fine weather would save it from humiliation in municipal and regional elections yesterday, although all opinion polls were forecasting the first landslide victory for the Centre-Right Popular Party.

The Socialists believed that good weather would lure out older and reluctant or undecided voters who traditionally favour the old guard. The polls had indicated that a third of the 32 million electorate in more than 8,000 municipalities — and the 17 million votes being cast for 13 of Spain's 17 regional parliaments — were undecided.

Alejandro Cercas, campaign manager for the Socialist Party which has been in power in Madrid for more than 13 years, said: "On May 29, elected councillors will wake up and need alliances. The Popular Party will not achieve a crushing victory." He added: "We will make deals with the communists and other Left nationalist parties."

But at its final election rally in Madrid on Friday night, José María Aznar, the Popular Party leader, who has gained in stature since surviving a recent assassination attempt by Basque separatists, said he was expecting a spectacular triumph. His audience was five times the number that Felipe González, the Prime Minister, attracted at his Madrid meeting. Señor González

By yesterday afternoon, attendance at some 50,000 polling stations was 38.98 per cent, 4.5 per cent up on the previous elections four years ago.

Although 2,352 European citizens living in Spain were allowed to vote for the first time in these municipal elections, Britons were excluded. Spain claims that Britain does not offer reciprocity. But the real reason for delaying approval of the relevant European Union directive is the usual rock of contention: the increasingly bitter dispute over the future of Gibraltar.

Overall, opinion polls predicted that the centre right Popular Party of 42-year-old Señor Aznar would obtain around 42 per cent of the vote while the Socialists of 52-year-old Señor González would receive about 28 per cent. In the last local elections in 1991, the Socialists polled 38.3 per cent and the Popular Party 25.3 per cent.

The United Left communists, who may get 15 per cent of the vote — compared with 8.4 per cent in 1991 — have strongly resisted making a pact with the Socialists so far. In fact, Julio Anguita, 53, the communist leader, argues that the Socialists and the Popular Party are one and the same.

"Aznar is the official Right, the visible one. Felipe is the disguised Right," he said. "Where we have to start negotiations, we will do so openly."

Señor Aznar has spearheaded a vigorous general-election style campaign throughout



José María Aznar, leader of the right-wing Popular Party, and his wife, Ana Botella, voting in Madrid yesterday. Polls predicted victory for the Right

the country, while Señor González has appeared only in some key cities. The Prime Minister admitted that he was "psychologically and physical-ly tired" after 12 years in office; he has become a virtual recluse in his residence and office, the Mondoa Palace. Señor González also feels betrayed by some government officials — now charged with corruption — who have helped to damage the Socialist's credibility.

Britain heading for showdown with Gibraltar

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Gibraltar Government is preparing itself for a showdown with Britain, following growing speculation that Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, will soon seek an Order in Council to impose direct rule on the Rock.

Spokesmen for the Gibraltar Government have indicated that they believe Britain is determined to force a confrontation with Joe Bossano, the Chief Minister. "If we are going to have this conflict, we should probably have it now rather than later," said Albert Poggio, Gibraltar's representative in London.

David Davis, the Foreign Office Minister responsible for Europe, hinted that Britain's patience with the colony's Government was now at an end. He said he would not engage in "megaphone diplomacy", but confirmed that Britain had made it clear to Mr Bossano how serious the situation was. "We are talking about drug smuggling, we are talking about serious crimes," said on BBC radio on Saturday.

Mr Davis emphasised Britain's responsibility for security and good government in the colony. "To allow the growth of a trade in smuggling or money laundering would be to undermine both these things," he said.

He would not be drawn on whether Britain would seek to impose direct rule, but he did not rule out a possible showdown. Mr Hurd is understood to have warned Mr Bossano that action must be taken "within weeks" to halt smuggling and implement Euro-

pean Union directives on money laundering. Officials from the Bank of England and the Foreign Office are now in Gibraltar to help draft the necessary legislation.

Mr Bossano is angry at the British accusations. Mr Poggio said at the weekend that the financial commissioner appointed by London had found no evidence of financial mismanagement. Gibraltar also insists it wants the same freedom to act as an offshore centre as other British territories such as Jersey or the Cayman Islands.

British officials do not hide Britain's impatience with Gibraltar or concern that the issue is holding up improvement in Anglo-Spanish relations, which the Government considers important in the run-up to the Spanish presidency of the European Union. Last week, Spain arrested five men, including three Gibraltarians, who were allegedly involved in smuggling 500,000 packets of cigarettes worth £750,000 to Spain.

Officials in Madrid have let it be known that the reason Spain held up legislation that would have allowed hundreds of thousands of British residents to vote in yesterday's local elections was dissatisfaction at Britain's failure to curb smuggling from Gibraltar.

An Order in Council is an executive order by the Privy Council which gives the Government the authority to act without requiring the endorsement of Parliament. Gibraltarians, as citizens of a dependent territory, would have no power to contest such an order.

Cash row hits Sydney Olympics

Sydney: International Olympic Committee officials have warned that the 2000 Games could be moved from Sydney because of financial wrangles. Australian officials said yesterday.

John Coates, President of the Australian Olympic Committee, was quoted in newspaper reports as saying a row over finances had led many international officials to question whether Sydney wanted to host the games. But yesterday he said that the IOC had not previously removed a city's right to host the Games.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the IOC, was said to be concerned that the New South Wales state Government was not fully behind the hosting of the Olympics. (AFP)

Dehaene request

Brussels: King Albert of Belgium asked Jean-Luc Dehaene, the outgoing Prime Minister, to form a new coalition government. The move had been expected since the May 21 election. (Reuters)

Cosatustrike

Johannesburg: The Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) announced a campaign of mass action leading to a half-day general strike next month in protest at new labour legislation.

Ebola nun dies

Rome: Another nun based in Kikwit in Zaire has died from the deadly Ebola virus, which has already killed six of her colleagues along with more than 100 local people, Italian television reported. (Reuters)

Bhutto retreat

Islamabad: Benazir Bhutto's Government backtracked over changes to Pakistan's blasphemy law after the electorally-weak Islamic parties showed their influence with a nationwide strike. (AFP)

Arsenal blasts

Aden: Yemeni officials were investigating a fire which swept through four ammunition dumps in central Aden and sent unexploded missiles hurtling into residential areas. No one was killed. (Reuters)

Legs reattached

Durban: Amos Mosea, a three-year-old boy whose legs were cut off by a combine harvester, is recovering well after a marathon operation to reattach the severed limbs, the hospital said. (AFP)

Brussels unveils £300m pink elephant

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS

IF buildings tend to embody the character of the institutions that inhabit them, then the new £300 million office complex which will be formally handed over to Europe's Council of Ministers in Brussels today conveys a simple message: keep out.

Built like a mediaeval fortress, the Council's new pink marble and plate glass monolith rises ten storeys, intimidating everything else around it. All that is needed is a squad of chain mail soldiers on the battlements pouring boiling oil over the invading hordes below to complete the effect.

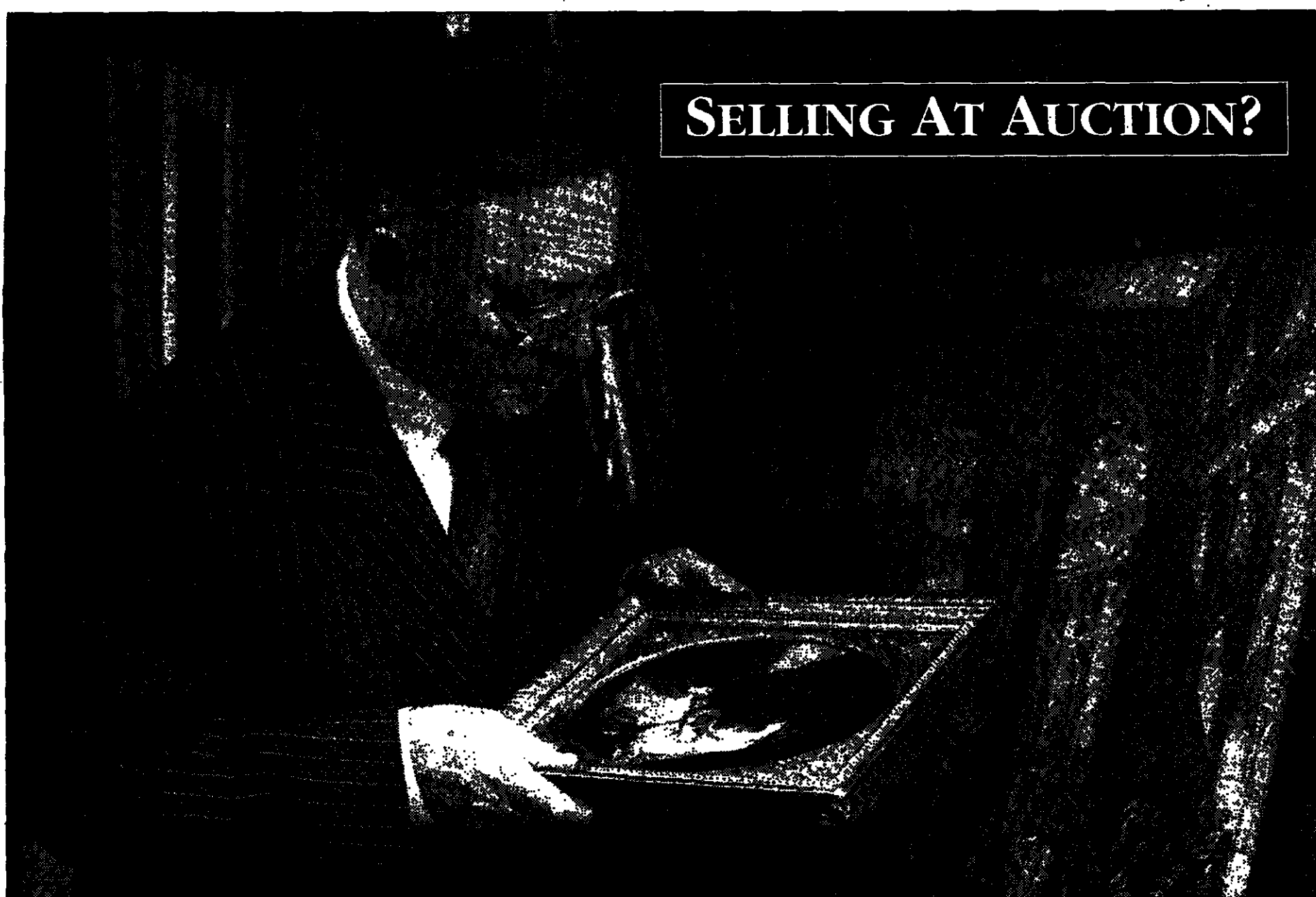
During a midday ceremony presided over by Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister, EU Foreign Ministers will take possession of the new Juste Lipse building — named after an obscure 15th century Flemish philosopher — which has already been branded Europe's new "pink palace" or "pink elephant".

Located at the heart of Brussels's Euro-quarter, the Juste Lipse complex will replace the antiquated Charlemagne building, which is hated by ministers, bureaucrats, and journalists alike because of its rudimentary facilities and lack of air conditioning.

Although the building is over budget and overdue, its inhabitants are confident that it will replace the Berlaymont, the European Commission's star-shaped headquarters, as the popular image of the EU. The complex covers eight acres and is made up of five interlocking squares, creating a series of internal courtyards and a labyrinth of corridors. A total of 70,630 cubic feet of pink marble, and 993,800 sq ft of plate glass were used in the construction.

Internally, the building has been described as "a study in pink". The floors are decorated in either pink marble or pink carpet, the walls are a subtle shade of pink and even the ceilings have an unmistakably pinkish hue. This, the designers insist, is to put Europe's ministers at their ease.

The new building will provide facilities for up to 15 simultaneous ministerial meetings, offices for about 2,500 permanent staff, and space for up to 1,000 journalists, as well as banqueting rooms, three restaurants, a gymnasium and sports centre, and 2,000 parking spaces. Ministers also have their own drive-in entrance, designed to keep them out of the reach of journalists.



Brian Koetter, Director, Phillips Paintings Department

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



■ VISUAL ART

At the Serpentine, a wry look at English society from the versatile Mark Wallinger
OPENS: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ OPERA

Mutiny at Covent Garden, with a new production of Britten's naval tragedy, *Billy Budd*
OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



■ POP

In Bob Marley's 50th anniversary year, the stars of reggae line up in tribute at Wembley Arena
GIG: Thursday
REVIEW: Monday



■ FILM

Drugs and degradation among rich young Londoners: Elizabeth Hurley stars in *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

Once, Wagner was new music

Even the best of today's new music is arid, introverted and will not endure, Bernard Levin insisted in *The Times* last week. Paul Griffiths disagrees

It is unduly pessimistic of Bernard Levin to be mourning the death of music (*The Times*, May 23). Where is the body? To go simply by numbers, there must be more professional composers working now within the Western "classical" tradition than ever before, and certainly the volume of new music available on record is vastly greater now than 20 years ago. If the criterion is to be popularity, then a work by a living composer, Henryk Górecki, was recently out-selling anything by Mozart.

Or if the case is to be made on the shakier ground of personal judgment, then let me place, alongside Mr Levin's undifferentiated abuse of "Birtwistle, Maxwell Davies, Henze, Stockhausen, Boulez and the rest" an alternative view. Within the small space of the past three years, the world has been enriched by the kaleidoscope of birdsongs, colours, chants and melodies in Messiaen's glorious leave-taking, *Eclairs sur l'Audé*... by the vivid dramatic machinery of Birtwistle's *Antiphonies* for piano and orchestra, by Steve Reich's playful spiriting of music out of documentary interviews in *The Cave*, by the wondrous new sounds of electric flutes caught in a tangle of orchestral echoes in Boulez's... *explosante-fixe*... by the physical and mental agility of Milton Babbitt's *Preludes*, *Interludes* and *Postlude* for piano, by the power of lament in Stockhausen's *Pied*, by the delightful gossamer and

strangeness of Ligeti's *Violin Concerto*, by the immense, grieving pronouncements of Kurtag's *Siete*.

Many of these works can already be heard on compact disc: others, including Reich and the Boulez, are due shortly. I urge Mr Levin to give them a whirl.

Of course, no one can tell what will endure. (A musical

It elasticates the brain to consider things that are new

observer in 1895 could hardly have predicted that, of the composers then active, Mahler, Debussy and Janáček would be so highly valued now.) It is even possible that among things lost during the next century will be the very notion of artistic endurance, as we move ever further from the sort of society — one homogeneous in background and aspiration — that can maintain a corpus of classics. This is perhaps what has stopped or is stopping: not music, but the network of institutions and beliefs necessary to the notion of a repertory that, in Mr Levin's words, "all could and did listen to".

That "all" was only ever an ideal, even if we take it to mean "all in Britain", for there were always large slices of the population disenfranchised by lack of opportunity, education or interest. It was also an ideal with a rather short history. Public concerts did not become widespread and regular events in this country until the second half of the 19th century; radio and records did not start to increase the potential audience further until the 1920s.



Harrison Birtwistle's *The Second Mrs Kong*: part of the thrill of new music is being at the premiere of a work that may be bound for greatness

Now the splendid idea of a universal music is receding. The record industry, which did so much to establish and communicate the central repertory, has gone on to bring us the symphonies of J.C. Bach, the madrigals of Cipriano de Rore and the operas of Peter Maxwell Davies — not to mention the music of non-European cultures: north Indian, Japanese, West African. Our record shops reflect the

fact that we are complex and diverse people, living in a complex and diverse world, and having complex and diverse musical needs. One of those needs is for novelty. It elasticates the brain to consider things that are new, and therefore stand the chance of being uncomfortable, even at first repugnant. And we do not have to make the choice between the old and the new. We can listen to Bach and to

Boulez, and discover how hearing each of them sends forks of lightning through our experience of the other.

Although changing with our changing perceptions, Mozart, Wagner and Stravinsky may continue to be important to us: indeed, I can hardly imagine it otherwise. We may find that some of our contemporaries join the immortals: I hope so. More than that, I find it part of the thrill of new music to have

the possibility of being at the first performance of something bound for greatness. We could not be there in Vienna three days before Christmas 1808, when the world first learnt what *dit-dit-da* was going to mean. But we can be at the Proms this summer, whether in person or listening at home, to hear — and to participate in history's estimation of — pieces by Luciano Berio and Elliott Carter, James Wood and Kaija Saariaho.

These people are living in our world; their music is our music. And we are the future's only representatives in the present. If we do not pay attention to living composers, then music will not die, for imagination can overpower neglect. What will die will be the art of listening.

Paul Griffiths is music critic of *The New Yorker*

The amour-plated hit machine

LOVE figures highly on Celine Dion's scale of things. Her latest album (double platinum sales in this country and still in the Top Five) is called *The Colour of My Love*. Montreal's darling has made Jennifer Rush's song *The Power of Love* her own.

And when she is not actually singing about love, she is talking about it. Dion, a thoroughly nice girl, loves her audience, her musicians, her crew; she loves everybody, including the tea lady at Sony Records. Phew. One somehow wishes that — just once — she would break out, kick Peter Barbaeus's drums over, perhaps smash André Coutu's guitar. Even hazard a stab at a truly sleazy song by, say, the Velvet Underground.

This is not to be, which is probably why most of the world loves Dion right back, ensuring sell-out concerts and multimillion record sales. Her latest single, *Only One Road* (no prizes for guessing the subject-matter), is shooting up (no drug pun intended) the charts and the first leg of her British tour (she returns in October) has attracted capacity houses.

The Dion experience may be a bit limited for those who prefer their love in measured

POP

Celine Dion
Apollo, W6

doses, preferably without a blazing lightshow or a synthesizer overloaded with string samples, but it is a formula that clearly works.

However, these are minor points of artifice. Dion has a massive voice, the capabilities of which are often more promising than the softish rock music itself. Her sense of dramatic delivery is flawless. There are times, particularly in *If You Asked Me To* and *Calling You*, when she cuts past her eight-piece band, and into the quick. These are among the best moments, but their effect is often dissipated by cheesier material, *Beauty and the Beast* being a main offender.

Even so, it would take a hard heart indeed to look for really severe faults. Dressed in a dapper two-piece suit, looking rather like a principal boy, Dion clearly relished the evening, establishing a strong (and probably loving) rapport with the audience. Stepping out of the back line for two



Celine Dion: she loves you, yeah, yeah, yeah

duets, Kerry Bradford contributed some fine solo vocals, weaving a nimble counterpoint around Dion's own lines. The star saved her biggest punches for Rush's song and a stirring *Think Twice* before rounding off with *Can't Help Falling in Love*. She wept, the crowd wept. The backing singers, who for reasons unexplained, continued doing their backstroke dance.

LOUISE GRAY

Moving on by his fingernails

On London Underground's District Line, Amjad Ali Khan began to sing softly. Never before can *raag Lalit* have been sung on the Tube, and all heads in the packed compartment tilted in his direction. Initial puzzlement turned swiftly to awe: there is the purest velvet in his voice.

Khan is one of India's foremost *sarod* players. The *sarod* is a stringed instrument that can be said to belong to his ancient family. Descended from the Afghan *rubab*, it owes its present form to Khan's great-grandfather.

After the *shehnai*, an oboe-like wind instrument, the *sarod* is arguably the most difficult Indian instrument to master. It is fretless, and is played by pressing the metal strings directly on to the finger board with only the edge of the fingernail. "The margin of error is very, very small," he says.

Khan is "on sabbatical" at present, as a visiting professor of Indian music at York University. He will be 50 in October and is clearly enjoying his unquestioned status as an elder statesman of the *raag*.

"In spite of MTV" — which has infected India like some demonic plague — he sees "a very bright future for Hindustani classical music". His sons, Amaan and Ayaan, are

WORLD MUSIC: Amjad Ali Khan, master of the *sarod* and lord of the *raag*, talks to Tunku Varadarajan

budding *sarod* players, as steeped in a father's tradition as Khan once was.

In the Indian manner, his father, Hafiz Ali Khan, was his teacher in all things musical. Once, at an audience with the President of India in Delhi, his father was asked whether he needed anything.

"He could have asked for a house, a stipend, an academy for the *sarod*, a scholarship for his son," Khan said, "but all he

asked for was urgent protection for *raag Darbari-Kanhra*. "Certain liberties had begun to be taken with that particular *raag* by performers in India and the old man's purist indignation had been aroused."

Decades later, Amjad Ali Khan also provokes the ire of traditionalists with his passion for composition. He has composed more *raags* than any other living musician. But



Amjad Ali Khan and the fiendishly difficult to play *sarod*

the Hindustani classical tradition has tended to frown on composition, preferring the creative instincts of its musicians to be expressed more in the interpretation of the existing canon than in its expansion.

Khan, however, has ignored his critics. He composed *raag Priyadarshini* when Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her own bodyguards, and *Kamal Shri* when her son, Rajiv, died at the hands of Sri Lankan Tamils. His most moving creation is *Amiri Tod*, in memory of Amir Khan, the brilliant Hindustani singer whose career was cut short cruelly by a motor accident.

He sang *Amiri Tod* in the lobby of the hotel where we met. He sang *raag Subhalakshmi* too, a piece composed in honour of his wife, and of "all Indian women who have sacrificed their careers to their husbands and family".

Khan's is a complex art, but his approach to it is straightforward. His simplicity is as handsome as the instrument on which he plays. "My audiences in England now know as much about my music as those in Delhi or Calcutta," he revealed, as we walked to the Tube station. Minutes later, *raag Lalit* came to the District Line.

● BROADWAY's current Hamlet, Ralph Fiennes, looks like the actor to beat at the Tony Awards next Sunday if his victory at last week's Drama Desk Awards is any gauge. The Drama Desk honours both Broadway and off-Broadway shows, which makes Fiennes's win even more impressive.

Elsewhere, though, the British may not do so well. Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*, for instance, lost the top Drama Desk prize to the American writer Terrence McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!*. As for *Sunset Boulevard*, the Drama Desk gave its best musical prize not to the Lloyd Webber epic but to Harold Prince's production of the American classic, *Show Boat*.

● FORMER stars of the TV drama *Soldier, Soldier*, the actors Robson Green and Jerome Flynn are the current heroes of the nation's record retailers. Having made their debut at No 1 with 310,000 sales of their single *Unchained Melody*, the duo then went on to shift 460,000 in the following seven-day period — the highest weekly sale of any British single since Band Aid's *Do They Know It's Christmas?* in 1984. The song itself has now been a hit in eight different versions, equalling the achievement of *White Christmas*.

A FULL house at a Hallé concert in the Free Trade Hall is a rare and wonderful sight these days. It is just the kind of encouragement an orchestra needs at the end of a difficult season. It is also a heavy responsibility in that, having got there, the audience must be persuaded to come back in similar numbers next time. This particular concert of Mozart and Strauss conducted by Kent Nagano was surely not persuasive enough.

No one came specifically for the *Symphony No 15* in G, K124, which was a wasted opportunity to capture immediate interest. Attractively played though it was, no one will have been inspired by the quality of the teenage composer's melodic invention to come back for the next early Mozart or to take on trust the next unfamiliar filler in a Hallé

Faded Janowitz loses her way

CONCERT

Hallé/Nagano
Free Trade Hall,
Manchester

programme. Many, on the other hand, had come for the *Four Last Songs* and many must have been disappointed.

Gundula Janowitz has been a great Strauss soprano and the art of understatement is still very evident in her interpretation. The voice retains a

certain freshness, too, although over a limited range there was little variety in colour and notes at the bottom of the stave were scarcely audible.

More disturbing, she has lost her authority — or so it seemed from an apparently perfunctory and nervily insecure performance of the first song in the set, *Frühling*, and from a fairly disastrous omission of a whole bar of the vocal line in *Beim Schlafengehen*. The horn and violin solos were, in some kind of compensation, firmly and expressively done.

The horn playing was one of the major distinctions in *Ein Heldenleben* too. In fact, except in some curiously inconsistent violin solos from Kees Hulsmann, it was a well-prepared and skilfully executed orchestral performance.

At the same time, and particularly in the strings, it was seriously lacking in character, authentically noisy though it was in the battle scene.

A month ago Nagano's interpretation of Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle* provoked cheers from a thin audience. At the last concert of the season his cleverly planned but emotionally ungenerous interpretation of a traditional Hallé favourite left a full house warmly polite but apparently unexcited.

GERALD LARNER

THE first time the Royal Ballet of Flanders came to Northampton they brought Nureyev's *Don Quixote* (the finest staging around) and a rare and exotic guest artist: Irek Mukhamedov, who was still the Bolshoi's male star.

This time the Flanders company offers no big names, but its own dancers emerge as ample compensation: young, precise, with bouncy allegro and neat ensembles.

More doubtful is their production of *La Fille mal gardée* by Joseph Lazzini, which purports to be taken "from historical archive material". Even if I bend over backwards until I hit the floor, this claim strikes me as ambiguous. The choreography by Lazzini looks as far from Dauberval's 1789 original as only the 20th century can be. Lazzini's first

History as bunk

Royal Ballet
of Flanders
Derngate,
Northampton

bash at the ballet was in 1954: since then he has piled on more and more dances and virtuosic tricks which did not kill the dancers, but damn near did me in. To compound the profusion, Lazzini utilises not the ballet's *Hérold* score, nor its subsequent *Hérold* one, but both, in a mind-boggling musical pick'n'mix.

Koen Kessels conducts the East of England Orchestra in this marathon of short-breathed tunes, comprising not only everything *Hérold* and *Hérold* probably wrote, but, my ears tell me, much else besides.

All of which is a pity, because the story retains its charm and Roger Bernard's designs are fresh and pretty, the harvest-time field of Act I stretching out to a sweeping horizon, overlooked by a stormy sky. Aysem Sunal, a wisp of a Lise, is technically fearless and has airily clean movements and a lovely wide smile. You just have to become accustomed to the stylised, rather brittle mode of acting, very much in keeping with

continental *Filles*. Played by Jan Vandeloof, Lise's mother Marceline (Simone in other productions) huffs and puffs two-dimensionally and, like the rest of the cast, manages a mime somehow combining crude exaggerations with vagueness. Eric Frédéric as Colin (or Colas) does not have to act much, but can concentrate on his sharp outlines and considerable balloon in innumerable solos.

It is all a far cry from the beautifully paced, naturalistic Ashton version we know so well. But how interesting to see many of the situations and details Ashton used cropping up here also. It seems that both Ashton and Lazzini drew from the same sources, even if neither produced authentic historical re-creations.

NADINE MEISNER

هكذا من الأصل

Bold French shock Serbs as troops retake bridge

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

THE unexpectedly fierce response by French combat troops to this weekend's Serb raid on a United Nations-held bridge may well come to be seen as a turning point in the UN's role in the Bosnia crisis. It was a test of resolve, and the Serbs, who have taken more than 300 UN hostages with apparent ease in defiance of world opinion, were clearly taken aback by the French troops' decisive action.

Serb fighters had captured a central Sarajevo bridge and several UN armoured personnel carriers, and seized 12 more hostages. The French responded on the orders of Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, the UN commander in Bosnia, by sending in 50 combat-ready peacekeepers and six tanks. Two Frenchmen were killed and ten

suggest that the UN and the main powers are going to have to either reduce the operation in Bosnia, or be prepared to forcibly bring the Serbs into line.

"There is no middle ground," a senior UN official in Zagreb said. "We cannot go on as we were before, leaving our people on the Serb side [as neutral] as well as protecting the 'safe areas' and enforcing the exclusion zones."

At 4.30am Serb commandos, wearing French uniforms, helmets and flak jackets, and carrying the weapons of French soldiers they are holding hostage, drove onto the UN-held Vrbica bridge inside a French UN armoured personnel carrier. The bridge is in a no man's land near Sarajevo.

"The French soldiers thought it was normal," said Major Guy Vinet, a UN spokesman in Sarajevo. "The Serbs got out of the vehicle and approached the French." Within a few minutes, and without firing a shot, the Serbs had control of the bridge along with 12 more hostages and several additional UN armoured personnel carriers. Ten of the French were disarmed and taken to an unknown destination as hostages and two were kept on the bridge as human shields.

The UN headquarters learned of the infiltration half an hour later when it was unable to raise the unit on the bridge by radio. A French officer was sent to the scene. Even he was fooled by the French uniforms and armoured personnel carriers, but when one of the Serbs spoke in English and tried to arrest him, he drove off and raised the alarm.

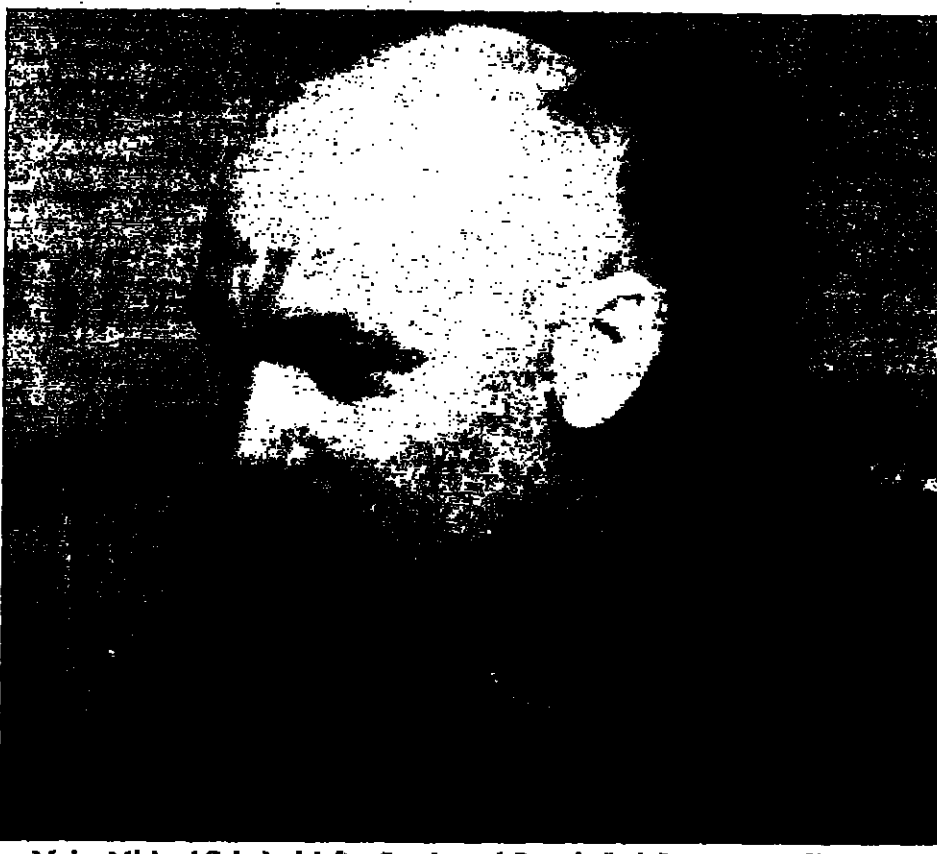
One UN official described it as an "audacious" attempt to humiliate the peacekeeping force. It may also be a test of the UN's resolve to hold positions under its protection. In recent months the Serbs have reinforced their claim to Sarajevo - airport which is among the most contested ground in the city. The airport is now under UN control, but if peacekeepers ever prepare for a withdrawal, the Serbs are likely to try and take it before they go. The airport is manned by French troops.

wounded in the hour-long battle that ensued. At least four Serbs died.

Early yesterday morning, Serb troops slipped away from their last positions on the bridge, leaving it to the French. One of the French hostages, who had been kept as a human shield, escaped.

"We are at war," a UN official said. "By every barometer, we are now a warring party. The only question is how quickly, and at what cost, we will be able to bring it to an end."

UN officials say the past four days' events have "illuminated the inconsistencies" of a mission where lightly-armed "blue helmets" are asked to be both neutral observers and "peace-enforcers". The ordeal of the hostages and surrounded peacekeepers, coupled with the French combat operation,



Major Michael Calmhed, left, a Swede, and Captain Jack Jorgensen, of Denmark, who are both being held hostage by Serbs at Lukavica barracks near Sarajevo airport

Paris drums up support for tougher mandate

FROM CHARLES BREMER IN PARIS

FRANCE, stung by the deaths and humiliation of its soldiers, waged an intense diplomatic drive over the weekend for a new consensus to beef up the United Nations mission in former Yugoslavia and isolate the Bosnian Serb forces.

In a round of Cabinet meetings and telephone calls to Presidents Yeltsin and Clinton, John Major and other leaders, President Chirac sought action to free the 93 French troops who are among more than 300 from the UN protection force taken hostage by the Bosnian Serbs. He also insisted the crisis must not just be defined but used to force a breakthrough in diplomacy and peacekeeping.

M. Chirac, backing up French indignation, ordered the aircraft carrier *Foch*, a frigate, landing craft and other vessels to sail for the Adriatic. Their combat aircraft and troops could be used for offensive operations or to cover a withdrawal.

After a long haul during the presidential election, Bosnia has leapt back on to the public stage. A sense of shock swept the country when television broadcast images of French soldiers waving white flags and being taken prisoner by swarming Serb troops outside Sarajevo on Saturday.

National pride was partly assuaged by news that the French forces had staged the first pitched battle involving UN troops and taken back the

bridge captured by Serb militia disguised as French personnel. Two soldiers died and 17 were wounded in the fierce firefight. Voicing the new aggressive approach, Admiral Jacques Lanxade, the French Chief of Staff, said: "The order given today to our forces is to resist... using all available means."

Despite the soldiers' ordeal and loss of a total of 39 French personnel in Bosnia, public sentiment for withdrawal is less evident than the desire to hit back at the Serbs, and the stalemate and enforce peace. One military saying is being widely aired: "On fire on one side" (We shoot or we get shot). *Le Monde* said: "Europe is in danger if it proves incapable of putting an end to the return of war to the continent." The UN forces must be given the means "to take aim at the Bosnian Serbs", it said.

The weekly *Journal du Dimanche* said that the UN would "lose all credibility" if it withdrew its forces now. The seizure of the hostages must provide the "emotional trigger" for fresh international resolve, it said.

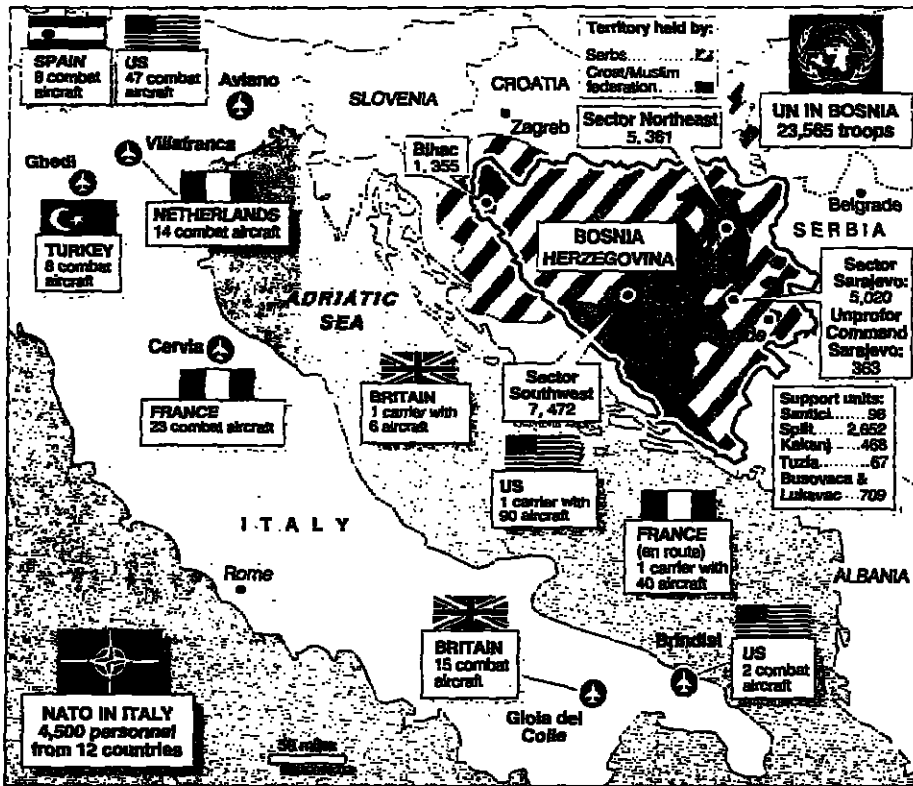
The view, widely reflected in public opinion, is echoed in M. Chirac's determination to force an overall resolution to the conflict. The crisis is widely seen as a test of French

honour and a baptismal trial for the new President.

France has for weeks been using the threat of withdrawal of its 4,000-strong contingent. It wants the UN to reinforce the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) in Bosnia, giving the troops the means to defend themselves. It also wants a new mandate redefining their duties, whether as suppliers of humanitarian aid or peace enforcers.

Hervé de Charette, the new Foreign Minister, said yesterday: "France believes Unprofor deployment must be reviewed, that UN troops must be given extra means to ensure their own safety... and that the mission given by the Security Council must be modified."

Officials say France is preparing to step up the pressure by setting a deadline for withdrawal if the series of international councils this week fail to produce results.



□ The Serbs enjoy superior firepower compared to the UN in Bosnia (Michael Evans writes). They have nearly 500 tanks, 800 artillery pieces, 60 multiple rocket systems and a

huge supply of mortars. They also have anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles. The British have Warrior fighting vehicles, with devastating 30mm cannons, mortars and anti-

tank missiles. Other UN battalions have armoured combat vehicles and light tanks. But there are no attack helicopters, no main battle tanks and no artillery.

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Nato's decision-making with respect to Yugoslavia has shown that the alliance may well ignore the viewpoint of its 'strategic partner' - Russia," wrote Aleksandr Golits, a columnist for *Krasnaya Zvezda*, the army newspaper. "Moscow's fears, that one day it might find itself in a situation where decisions involving its security will be made without it, are quite justified."

Russia holds back peace mediators in anger at Nato

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA appeared in no hurry to help the West out of its dangerous stand-off in Bosnia yesterday, after a high-ranking Russian delegation delayed its mission to mediate with the Bosnian Serbs.

John Major, President Clinton and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, all contacted President Yeltsin by phone at the end of last week, asking the Kremlin to use its traditionally strong ties with the Serbs to persuade them to free United Nations hostages and back off from further confrontation with Nato. The request appeared to have worked when Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, announced on Saturday that Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister, and General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, were being sent to the former Yugoslavia.

Mr Kozyrev, who has years of experience in Balkan diplomacy, and General Grachev, who is on first name terms with General Ratko Mladic,

RUSSIA

the Bosnian Serb commander, would certainly have a better chance of breaking the current deadlock than any Western envoys. However, both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Defence Ministry in Moscow said yesterday that neither minister had yet made any travel plans.

The Russians would like to see an end to the explosive situation in Bosnia: 11 of its soldiers are held by the Serbs, though some Russian TV channels claim they have been freed. The Russians also have a contingent of 500 paratroopers near Sarajevo who would be particularly vulnerable if the situation deteriorates.

However, it now seems clear that the Kremlin wants a guarantee from Nato that it will no longer use its air power to intervene in the conflict. The Kremlin is angry that it was not consulted adequately before the latest Nato airstrikes, at a time when the alliance is trying to persuade Moscow to accept its Partnership for Peace programme, whereby non-Nato members play a consultative role in the organisation.

Nato's decision-making with respect to Yugoslavia has shown that the alliance may well ignore the viewpoint of its 'strategic partner' - Russia," wrote Aleksandr Golits, a columnist for *Krasnaya Zvezda*, the army newspaper. "Moscow's fears, that one day it might find itself in a situation where decisions involving its security will be made without it, are quite justified."



Chernomyrdin named team to visit Serbs

THE TIMES An evening with Baroness Thatcher



To mark the publication of her second volume of memoirs, *The Path to Power*, *The Times*, in co-operation with Dillons, invites readers to an evening with Lady Thatcher. Following the success of her first *Times/Dillons* forum, when she spoke about *The Downing Street Years*, Lady Thatcher will now turn her attention to the years leading up to her premiership. She will discuss her childhood in Grantham, the profound influence of her father, her marriage to Denis, her early career as a politician and her determined rise to power. She will also give characteristically forthright opinions on some of the century's leading political figures. The forum will be chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, and will offer those attending the opportunity to question Lady Thatcher.

The forum will be held at Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 on Tuesday, June 13 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 each (concessions, £7.50) and are available by ringing 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680, or by sending it, with your remittance, to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, where tickets can also be purchased.

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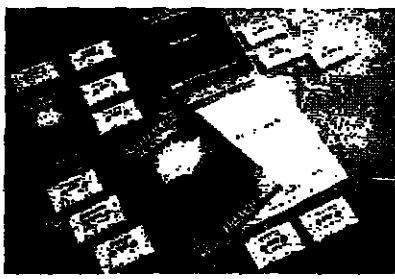
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MUSIC

Seiji Ozawa is on the podium when the Vienna Philharmonic comes to the Festival Hall

CONCERT: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

THEATRE

A twist in the tale: Deborah Warner stages *Richard II* at the National, with Fiona Shaw in the title role

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

JAZZ

Master saxophonist Sonny Rollins comes to the Barbican for an evening of vintage improvisation

GIG: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

BOOKS

Archbishop John Habgood reviews a new edition of Nikolaus Pevsner's *York*

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

ARTS

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

THEATRE: Moe of the same; a tribute better heard than seen; surreal Strindberg



(Back, left to right) Kendall, Williams, Pennycook, Sharp and (front) Jenkins and Kent are alive and kicking as *Five Guys Named Moe* — plus one

Treading the familiar waters of the Jordan

Well, here they are again: Big Moe, Little Moe, Four-Eyed Moe, East Moe and No Moe. A guy named Cameron Mackintosh put an end to their four-year run at the Lyric to make room for *Ain't Misbehavin'*, but has now yielded to popular demand, cut short the continental tour of this latest quintet of Moe's, and brought the show back to the West End. Good news for the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, where the Moe's began in 1990; and continuing good news for the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn, where the misbehavin' began. Mackintosh has been a valuable friend to both.

I sort of liked the show, here and there. Maybe I shouldn't have eaten a brie sandwich on the way to the theatre. Better by far to have tucked into a hearty meal and drunk copiously, to start me off on the high that the show itself never really provided.

The five dance out of the radio that a sixth guy, Nomax, is glumly listening to in the small hours — cue for *Early in the Morning* — and frenetically take him in hand. Out with self-pity, tell your girl you love her, married life is bad and good, the single life is good and bad; Louis Jordan's songs will illustrate every mood you're in. The guys stride in unison, hop, twist, grin, point, sway, swing, and if you're caught by it, you'll be caught up high, clapping hands over your head and shouting "Yeah!" whenever.

At the end of the first half the Moe's will lead you in a conga down the aisles, on to the stage and back again, having a great time no doubt. I found it just too much.

Out of the Jordan songbook Clarke Peters has chosen a couple of dozen hits and fitted them in a sequence that tells a simple story — out with self-pity, etc. Those that don't fit are lumped into a cabaret session, and it is here that Four-Eyed prances on, wearing a yellow beak and a fox's tail, to sing *Ain't Nobody Here but us Chickens* in a twirling falsetto, and pretty funny he is too. Of the other busy numbers I best enjoyed the minstrel burlesque of *Safe, Sane and Single*, where the guys sit in a line and make with the banjo and tambourine.

The five are Richard D. Sharp, Jason Pennycook, Tee Jaye Jenkins, Trent Kendall and Faruma Williams; Monroe Kent III, miked differently from the rest, is Nomax. Charles Augins directs and choreographs, and I dare say it will go on giving pleasure to thousands.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Read under the bed

Real Writing
Riverside Studios, W6

THE Russian poet Anna Akhmatova is renowned for her suffering under Stalin: censored, spied on by neighbours, her son sent to Siberia. She was equally celebrated for her literary powers and her resistance. It was considered too dangerous to preserve her poems, so copies were memorised by friends and then burnt.

Unfortunately, Akhmatova seems to inspire less than thrilling dramatic tributes. Helene Cixous's *Black Sail*, White Sail, at the Gane last year, was biographically clumsy. Maureen Laurence's *Real Writing*, well directed by Corin Rodgrave, is more successful. At least the story is focused on one intense friendship: that of Anna and Lydia, an admiring younger woman drawn to the writer as a kindred spirit after the arrest of her own husband.

Kate Buffery gives a fine perfor-

Cube root of infinity

A Dream Play
Tramway, Glasgow

ALREADY past 50, Strindberg wrote to a friend as he was finishing this mysteriously profound, madly puzzling play, *Kane Basset* writes. "Life," he observed, "becomes more and more dreamlike and inexplicable to me." Robert Leggate's production with Sweden's Royal Dramatic Theatre (plus English surtitles) makes startling sense of this extraordinary piece.

A *Dream Play* takes us through a logical sequence of times and places where characters curiously ramify or repeat. We follow the celestial Daughter of Indra on her journey through mankind's suffering, through realms at once real and dreamt, the action leaping from mythological ether to fairy-tale castle, from moral allegory to satires of married life.

Leggate manages to be richly suggestive and starkly simple. He encapsu-

Five Guys Named Moe

Albery

lates the universe in a spinning cube. It revolves like a planet, lost in the blackness of the Tramway's industrial shade. Maybe the Nordic gloom before lights-up was too deep, the audience groping for seats. But thereafter, sensitive to Strindberg's invocation of "the balance point of autumn" and his counterpointing of withering age with hopes of rejuvenation, Leggate juxtaposes faded greens and engulging night with shafts of sunlight.

The cube metamorphoses with the fluidity of dreams. What was the Earth seen from space can become a poly living room where the Officer, one of the multiple characters whose dreams flow into each other, relives his parents' bickering marriage. The room is seen from a disturbed angle. The father thrusts his head through a doorway tilted so far backwards it's on its way to being an open grave. The Officer, changing from a boy to a man in a brilliant *trompe l'oeil*, crouches, watching, in a corner of the ceiling.

Leggate's actors defy gravity, walking the walls of this spinning universe then suddenly letting their bodyweight drag them down its slopes. That said, however good the acting and director's concept, this play needs cutting. The obscurity of Strindberg's lines drags after three hours.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre happening in London

House alt, returns only
Some seats available
Seats at all prices

Gerrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2
0171-494 5510; Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm

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NEW RELEASES

ANGEL (R): A squad of angels help a husband. Unusually sentimental family film, with Danny Glover and Christopher Lloyd. William Dear directs. MGM Home Video. (0171-494 0031)

BYE BYE LOVE (R): Three divorced couples spend a weekend in a remote house. Paolo Sorrentino directs. Warner. (0171-494 0031)

ED WOOD (R): Tim Burton's wonderful biography of the bizarre man who wrote the worst film ever made. With Johnny Depp and Martin Landau as Bela Lugosi. Chaplin Picture House. (0171-494 0031)

THE MANGLER (R): Lame and silly comedy about a man who kills his wife. With Robert Englund. Director, Tobe Hooper. MGM Home Video. (0171-494 0031)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where to see them

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How a strand of DNA could outperform electronic technology □ A telescope to see undiscovered planets □ A tilted view of the world



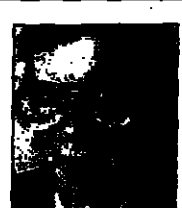
WHEN an American scientist, Leonard Adleman, last year proposed a way of solving complex problems by using the genetic material DNA, most people who read his paper chuckled and passed on. It was brilliantly ingenious, but it didn't seem to have a future.

Now a lot of them are thinking again. Richard Lipton, a computer scientist from Princeton, has shown that a DNA computer could, in theory, solve some problems beyond the capacity of even the biggest current supercomputers.

With two of his students, he has even devised a way of cracking the uncrackable codes devised by the US National Security Agency. They haven't done it, but they believe it is possible.

The principle of DNA computers, originated by Dr Adleman at the University of Southern California, is simple enough, although the actual details are complex. DNA is a long molecule made up of four different bases, arranged in different orders to form the genetic

The ultimate computer



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

code. A tremendous amount of information can be stored in this way, as is obvious if you think that every detail of every living organism is coded in DNA.

Suppose, then, that you use a stretch of DNA to code a number, or to represent some logical proposition. In Dr Adleman's case, he used it to solve the well-known "salesman's problem" — working out the shortest route to take to visit seven cities, calling at each one only once.

Stretches of DNA were used to represent the cities, and the roads

linking them. They were then mixed, in a chemical process that linked them together. The "answer" to the problem was a single DNA molecule that linked all seven. Dr Adleman showed how this solution could be extracted from the DNA soup using established methods.

In this case, the problem was a simple one, and it took a week in the lab to solve it using the DNA computer. But the idea appealed to others, who argue that there are some problems beyond conventional computing which it may be able to solve. The reason is

that the DNA offers a way of performing a huge number of calculations simultaneously.

A single flask could contain 100 billion billion strands of DNA, each encoding a string of data. The data could be manipulated in a variety of ways, using chemical reactions: combining strands, breaking them at specific points, extracting those with a particular sequence. And all these operations would be performed on all the strands at once.

This massive parallelism makes up for the slowness of chemical reactions when compared with the electronic signals of conventional computers. In Dr Lipton's code-breaking notion, every single possible "key" to the code is represented by a stretch of DNA, and then tested simultaneously. The process would consist of a series of extractions, copyings and other processing steps that would take months. But it would yield a single DNA strand representing the key.

"It's not practical at this time, but we could probably do it if there were a commercial reason for it," Dr Lipton told *Science*. Could this be the start of something big?

High hopes



WE could be on the verge of having telescopes powerful enough to detect the presence of planets around neighbouring stars, a group of American and French astronomers has worked out. But the planets would have to be massive ones, bigger than Jupiter.

It has long been assumed that neighbouring stars have their own planetary systems, just like our solar system. If there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe, it will have to live on a planet, so unless we can find some, we will have to conclude we are all alone. Until now, searches for planets have depended on indirect evidence, but actually seeing one would be far more persuasive. Dr Adam Burrows, of the University of Arizona, and colleagues, argue in *Nature* that many planets may be considerably brighter than Jupiter, usually the benchmark in such calculations.

They calculate the brightness of

several hypothetical giant planets, and show that the next generation of telescopes, both terrestrial and space-based, would stand a good chance of spotting them. The best place to look, they say, would be around very young stars which are likely to have the most massive planets. With luck, they might then detect planets bigger than Jupiter, and lying farther away from their parent stars than Jupiter is from the Sun. Finding little green men will be harder.

Level looks



THE psychologists who delight in showing that we have a cock-eyed view of the world we live in can prove it with a test that requires you to draw the water level on to a drawing of a tilted container.

A remarkable number of people — more women than men, I regret to say — draw lines that diverge from the horizontal. Given the normal behaviour of water, just a moment's reflection would

show that this is impossible. Now the test has been tried on waitresses and bartenders, and they did even worse than the average — "to our knowledge, the only documented case in which performance declines with experience," write Heike Hecht and Dennis Proffitt, in *Psychological Science*.

Herr Hecht, a graduate student, got a job in Munich and took the opportunity of the Oktoberfest to test waitresses, bartenders, truck drivers, housewives, and female graduate students. Less than a third of the bar staff gave the correct answer, compared with more than half the truck drivers and housewives. The average error for waitresses was 27 degrees.

What can we conclude from this? It seems that people who spend their lives carrying glasses tilted at an angle become more rather than less inclined to see things from the point of view of the container rather than what it contains. They have, in the jargon, an "object-related" approach.

Graduate students, who of course never carry glasses, do much better in this test, by the way.

Does this bee contain the secret of life?

John Postgate on a microbial clue to an ultimate question

Professor Paul Cano and his colleague Monica Borucki, of the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, have isolated live bacteria from a dead bee that had become entrapped in amber between 25 and 40 million years ago.

According to the exciting report in the American magazine *Science*, the bacteria, which had survived as dormant bodies called spores, belonged to a species called *Bacillus sphaericus*. Modern strains of that species are normal inhabitants of the guts of modern bees, so it is a plausible microbe to find in a dead bee. But does it follow that the microbe is as old as the bee?

Since the late 1920s there have been dozens of reports of bacteria being isolated from very ancient environments, the oldest sources being some 650 million years old. But the great majority have been viewed with reserve by microbiologists because the experi-

ments did not rigidly exclude the possibility that the microbes found were actually modern. That mistake could have come about in two general ways.

The first is contamination of the sample. We live with, eat and breathe bacteria, mostly as spores. They are present in the air around us, in droplets of breath, on dust, on surfaces, in soil and water, on skin and hair — everywhere. Such microbes might have worked their way into the original material from outside, or might have been introduced as contaminants by some error in manipulation on the part of the scientist. Many of the earlier reports did not rigidly exclude such slip-ups, and the fact that the microbes found were usually types which are fairly common in the environment added to scientists' doubts.

But a couple of the more recent reports take care of this problem, and most microbiologists would now accept that bacterial spores exist that can



The insect which was preserved in amber; if it is true that the bacteria within it became dormant and revived again over millions of years, scientific rethinking will be needed

survive for six to eight thousand years. As far as contamination is concerned, Cano and Borucki have been meticulously careful: they have shown convincingly that their *B. sphaericus* strain came from inside that bee and nowhere else.

However, and this exemplifies the second trap, it does not follow that the spores which gave rise to their cultures were as old as the bee. When that bee died, the microbes inhabiting its corpse did not die: they multiplied. As the internal organs of the bee decayed and putrefied the microbes should have had a bonanza. In the case of *B. sphaericus*, which needs oxygen to grow, they probably did not do well, because the air entrapped with the bee would soon be used up. Then they would form spores. But other microbes, those able to do without air, would carry on until all the digestible parts of the bee were used up, when they, too, would start to die. The dead bacteria would rot, making more nutri-

ents available to the survivors, which would multiply, but in due course die, and so on. Generation would follow generation as the nutrients which constituted the bee were recycled, the total population declining gradually. This is what bacterial populations in isolated environments normally do, and the decline in the population can be halted if the environment is incompletely closed, ie if fresh nutrients can diffuse in and reach the population. Again, earlier reports of ancient bacteria rarely took account of the possibility that the sample contained a live if declining microcosm.

Cano and Borucki did not address that criticism overtly. They tacitly assumed that amber would be impermeable, excluding both fresh nutrients and oxygen. They presumably realised that multiplication would have taken place but, isolated in the bee's amber coffin, it would have been over in days, or perhaps weeks — a

negligible time compared with 25 to 40 million years.

But was the bee truly isolated? Amber is only a hardened gum, and gums, mastics, rubber and the like are not truly gas-tight, though they seem so

for most everyday purposes. Could an infinitesimal trickle of oxygen have reached the microbial microcosm within the bee's corpse, permitting immensely slow and protracted multiplication of *B. sphaericus*, such that today's few spores could be relatively modern descendants of the original population? It is not likely. Even making wildly favourable assumptions about the amount of water and organic matter available to the bee, the size of the initial population and so on, any microcosm would have run out of nutrient in a few tens of thousands of years. So, unless both extraneous organic mat-

ter and oxygen somehow crept into that amber tomb, perhaps through some microscopic fissure or fault, the parents of Cano and Borucki's cultures have to have been about as old as the bee.

It is a pity that they did not resolve this point. It is not simply hair-splitting, because if the spores were really as ancient as the bee, the implications are tremendous. Forget the publicity about possible new antibiotics etc from these microbes (these organisms are neither more nor less likely than any other new isolates to yield such goodies). Far more important is the implication that these organisms can package DNA in such a way that it is undamaged by the natural background radiation on this planet.

Normal DNA does not last even thousands of years. That

is why the DNA which scientists have cloned from ancient material is always fragmented: their clones are not even whole genes, let alone strings of genes. Spores resist dehydration, heat, cold and disinfectants, but they are only marginally less sensitive to radiation damage than non-dormant bacteria: not nearly sufficiently to account for millions of years of longevity. Yet precedents for protection do exist in biochemistry: light would destroy the chlorophyll of plants were it not protected by carotenes, and "chaperonins" protect proteins from temperatures that would otherwise coagulate them like hard-boiled egg. It is conceivable that certain spores protect their DNA in some such way.

If it is true that bacteria can become dormant and revive over millions of years, some rethinking will be needed. Microbial evolution, which scientists are just beginning to sort out, will become scrambled once more. More dramatically, would not such spores survive equally in outer space,

their DNA further protected from cosmic rays by the near-absolute cold? Spore-forming bacilli related to *B. sphaericus* are abundant in air.

Has this planet, aided by volcanic eruptions, atmospheric turbulence, and, recently, jet aircraft, been spilling dormant bacterial spores into the solar system for a couple of billion years, to be swept up by the gravity of the Moon and inner planets? And, reversing that thought, could life on this planet be descended from alien spores?

Panspermia, the view that the seed of life is diffused throughout the universe, has been favoured by a minority of thinkers since the Greek Anaxagoras in 5th century BC. He, Arrhenius and Fred Hoyle may yet have the laugh on us doubters.

John Postgate FRS is Emeritus Professor of Microbiology at the University of Sussex. His book, *The Outer Reaches of Life*, was published by Cambridge University Press last year.

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The worm that turns blue when the water turns dirty

Nick Nuttall reports on a remarkable genetic development

Wriggling around laboratories in the Midlands is a species of worm which, courtesy of genetic engineers, turns blue when washed over by chemicals, heavy metals or hazardous toxins.

The aim of the worms' creators is to make them a kind of biological litmus test for rapid detection of contaminated land, lakes, rivers and streams. They would be connected to a photo-sensitive device, which would relay an alarm back to the National Rivers Authority if a serious pollution incident had taken place.

The worms, a one-millimetre-long species of nematode called *Caenorhabditis elegans*, have been engineered by a team at Nottingham University's life sciences department, led by Dr David de Pomerai.

All organisms, from bacteria to human beings, react to stress caused by exposure to pollution, toxic chemicals or heat, by producing special stress proteins. Unfortunately these proteins are difficult to detect and measure in the laboratory, which is where the genetic engineering comes in. The scientists have inserted a gene from a bacterium and linked it with the worm's natural stress gene. When exposed to pollution a bacterial enzyme is made in the worm's cells that turns royal blue. The degree of blue is directly related to the level of pollution — and thus stress.

Dr de Pomerai and his team have just completed preliminary tests in Cornwall, near the Wheal Jane tin mine. In 1992 the mine spilled thousands of gallons of highly toxic wastes into the River Carnon, polluting 4,000 acres of oyster



The *Caenorhabditis elegans* — the aim is to use it as a pollution detective

beds near the mouth of the Fal Estuary. Tests using mine water, water from the Carnon and clean streams near by, have shown that the genetically altered worms work, he said.

Traditional tests, which gauge the survival rate of

water-living plankton, take up to 72 hours to work, by which time pollution may have been washed downstream. The worms give a result in a few hours and also grade the level of pollution by their colour change.

Dr de Pomerai says the

worms could also be used to test new pesticides to gauge their toxicity. Indeed, a biological litmus test could be used for screening a wide range of substances, from new food additives to drugs.

The work highlights the way in which organisms are being

increasingly applied to help to police the water environment. For example, rainbow trout, housed in a tank and linked to electrodes, have been tested in the River Dee. The electrodes detect changes in the fishes' breathing patterns, which are caused by pollution.

Thames Water has been using elephant fish from Nigeria. These fish, which normally live in murky waters, communicate by electrical impulses. Pollution distresses the fish, causing them to increase the level of impulses. Freshwater zebra mussels open and shut their shells in response to pollution, a phenomenon which has been employed as a cheap biological pollution monitor.

Dr de Pomerai believes that the gene-altered nematode worms might best be deployed to test for very high concentrations of pollution, which they can usually withstand without dying. "Even so the water from within the Wheal Jane killed them off," he said.

Margaret Drabble's life of Angus Wilson is out, so now she can tidy her own

A writer's world in a biscuit tin

How Drabble's biographical labour of love has unearthed an extraordinary literary story

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



Margaret Drabble was once at a dinner at the Savoy, sitting next to the Tory Minister for the Arts. She told him conversationally that Arnold Bennett, whose biography she had written, had an omelette named after him at the Savoy. "Oh," said Richard Luce (for it was he), "is Arnold Bennett here tonight?"

We talked over coffee by candlelight at 10.30am, as there was a power cut in the Langham Hilton, and in this light Ms Drabble at 57 resembles her young self, a face made for a puritan's bonnet and a white collar. In the five years since her last novel she has produced her 650-page life of Sir Angus Wilson: an enthralling record of a 20th-century novelist's life in exhaustive detail — more difficult than Bennett, because she knew Wilson so well.

She describes a dinner party she gave where Wilson turned angrily on Julian Mitchell, and an ugly scene developed. Drabble found Wilson banging his head against her fridge door in shame, and told him crossly that she had had quite enough of squabbles, having just left her aged husband, Tony Garrett, for Christmas. He wrote about her: "Under the Tories don't let me be old and don't be young."

In the 1980s, Drabble became politically galvanised by the contrast between public squalor and private wealth. She gave warning, in essays and pamphlets, of the spurious charm of unreal riches. "It is unserious money, fantasy money. It is a temporary fairyland, and we shall wake up when the North Sea oil runs out, sitting on our fingers and blowing on our hands to keep warm." One could not imagine her buying a lottery ticket. Higher taxation would make for a more harmonious nation, she argues, disdaining personal reward: "I think excellence and effort is its own reward. Like the view from the top of a mountain." Her

anti-Thatcherite writers, but she had written to the Labour Party only the day before, to check on a phrase Kimock had used: "Under the Tories don't let me be old and don't be young."

Years before "outing", Wilson and his lifelong partner, the handsome and charming Tony Garrett, appeared in a BBC film called *Couples*. They met in the British Museum Reading Room when Garrett was 16, and were together for 35 years. In their Suffolk cottage Garrett became Wilson's helpmeet, chauffeur, secretary, cook, host and, at the end, his saintly nurse. Drabble points out that if he'd been a widow, the Royal Literary Fund would have gone on paying Wilson's £5,000 pension to Garrett. Claire Tomalin wanted to make a case for it, Drabble says, "but Tony didn't want that."

For a top novelist, Wilson earned little. In 1976, she records with surprise, Wilson earned £11,287, compared with Arnold Wesker's £24,000. Drabble herself made £12,216 — a good year. "Wasn't that interesting? I thought Angus would have done twice as well as me. But although his books were praised, they sold only to a coterie of serious readers, a limited number."

When John Junor wrote contemptuously about Wilson's knighthood — "should we send the happy couple some silver spoons?" — many furious friends rallied and sent spoons. Eventually Wilson and Garrett left Thatcher's Britain with their dwindling funds and went to France, a bad idea. "But even when he became ill, Angus never seemed unhappy: he continued to enjoy food and loved having visitors."

An article by Rose Tremain, his former student at the University of East Anglia, revealing how nearly destitute he was, brought shoals of letters, an apology from Auberon Waugh for his cruel reviews, and a donation of £1,000 from a stranger, the comedian Victoria Wood.

On the day Margaret Thatcher resigned, Drabble arrived at the Suffolk nursing home where Wilson had come home to end his days. No longer was he immobile, confused. "She's gone!" he cried, staggering across the car-park to meet Drabble. "She's gone!" Drabble had no idea what he was talking about: she had been listening to Timothy West reading Trollope.

She has not yet met Tony Blair (surprisingly for a member of the June 20 group of



Margaret Drabble: like Wilson she loves to travel and lecture, and also like him is shocked to find students who don't know who Kipling was

school days at the Quaker Mount School, York (from where she took a starred First at Cambridge), bestowed a sense of duty and a dislike of extravagance. Her own children went to the local comprehensive, two of them going on to Oxford.

The biography of Wilson was a labour of love, and she has unearthed some odd tales. Wilson was one of six sons, the last three of whom were all gay (his brothers transvestite prostitutes), and his friends were legion. Drabble found the poet James Kirkup through a chance meeting with Moira Shearer at the opera: Kirkup still writes adoringly to Shearer from Andorra. Antonia Fraser gave Drabble her diary describing arriving at Wilson's cottage in the inferno-like heatwave of 1976, when she and Harold Pinter had sat up all the previous night in their London

garden, because of the heat. Their huge literary projects make it convenient for Drabble and her husband Michael Holroyd to keep separate houses in London. (Before her last trilogy of novels, 1981-91, she spent five years on the *Oxford Companion to English Literature*, while Holroyd toiled on *Paperwork* spilling from every wardrobe in Holroyd's Notting Hill flat; Drabble has done a giant sort-out in Hampstead, and is sending her own archives to the British Library — "engagement diaries and old passports are a useful way to track your movements, so I've put them in two biscuit tins, to be stored in case I ever want to write my own life, or if anyone else does.")

She used to retreat to the Station Hotel, Peterborough, to write in peace. Now they have a house in Somerset ("we are the people from Porlock")

where she writes, like Shaw in his revolving summerhouse, in her garden shed. "But that is too lowly a word," she says. "It is beautiful, with the biggest desk I've ever had, and a wonderful view of the sea on three sides. So, when you're stuck you just watch the water, and the birds. You get your exercise walking through the vegetable patch, and there's something heroic about going out in very bad weather in your raincoat."

I asked what happened after that winter night in Hampstead, when the Holroyds' car, buried under snow, was stolen. Holroyd had resourcefully run the car-phone. To his astonishment it was answered. "Who are you?" demanded Holroyd. "I'm the thief that stole your motor!" came the reply. "And then I found I couldn't cancel the car-phone," Drabble says. "I said, 'But I haven't got it any more!' And they said, 'You've still got to go on paying your rental.' I haven't had a car-phone since."

deconstruction and Derrida, about which he neither knew nor cared" — and his last novels had none of the impact of his early work.

"But it always happens. Time and fame are remorseless," says Drabble. "Sometimes I feel I'm going uphill, there's a whole generation who would enjoy his work if they knew it was there. In print, in Penguin."

"Every life ends sadly: this is the basic truth about writing biography. They get old, and ill, and they die. So all biographers have a dying fall. Arnold Bennett died of typhoid after drinking a carafe of water in Paris. But the fascination is in the search."

He makes the usual claim that writing is a solitary occupation, yet one sees flocks of gregarious writers at every party, and Wilson himself dissipated his energy for 30 years, addressing conferences and going off on foreign tours (Mexico, India) organised by the British Council. Drabble takes after him: Argentina, Vietnam... She is currently travelling the country judging the Prudential Arts Awards: she was just off to see Eddie Izzard playing *Edward II* at Leicester. "Well, Angus just loved travelling and so do I. He hated saying no. He wanted to be a public-spirited person. He had no children to keep him at home. And you meet the kind of people you otherwise wouldn't. But it used to be more amusing before it all became author promotion. I love talking about *The Novel Today*; I don't so much enjoy saying 'Buy my book.'"

What about students who, as Angus found when lecturing in America, don't know who Kipling was? "Yes, more and more you have to explain the most basic things. But that's quite good for one, you realise how much you take for granted. When Doris Lessing and Michael and I went to China, it was tricky: they knew Shaw, because Shaw had been in China, but they'd never heard of Martin Amis."

It becomes clear in her book that Wilson deliberately diversified his activities in the face of fading fame. He was unnerved by the arrival of young Malcolm Bradbury at Norwich — "It was upsetting to hear Malcolm talking about

A fine and concrete solution

Sometimes we all feel like parking our work outside the front door

I hate to spoil the mellow Bank Holiday atmosphere, but really I must confess to a sneaking sympathy for Mr Nigel Lambert, the demon lorry-dumper of Leybourne. In the annals of modern divorce his name will live on as the man who said it with four concrete-pumping lorries and a Nissan truck.

These, he explains, represent his wealth: his company, Mrs Lambert had wanted a better share of it than he felt he could offer. "She and her solicitors are looking for money they think exists, but it doesn't," he said. "I am lucky if I break even." Her solicitor persisted. So, with one last flourish, Mr Lambert handed over the whole business; but raw, rather than processed into nice tidy cheques.

As a final gesture before they signed on the dotted line, he had his drivers dump the five giant vehicles right in front of Mrs Lambert's tastefully secluded Kentish executive home.

Enter the police, with parking tickets; the neighbours, alternately outraged and giggling at this desecration of prime commuterland; the council, worrying about the carriage-way; and the photographers, snapping away and hoping that theirs would be the paper to come up with the immortal headline *Whose lorry now?* Mrs Lambert says: "This is all stupid. I have had enough."

Every picture tells a story: she, sporting long bobble earrings and the kind of hairdo that so annoys Germaine Greer; he looking a bit of a rough diamond; the neat row of executive homes and the lorries in green-and-yellow livery. A small company ruined, a family fragmented; sad stuff, but let other pens dwell on guilt and misery, and the courts work out who is most unreasonable. Eclipsing it all is the gesture itself: glorious and strangely universal.

It is universal because the dumping of the smoky, heavy, smelly lorries in the tidy village estate represents an intrusion which a lot of breadwinners — male and female — would secretly like to make on their dependants. The trucks represent a crude, diesel blast of reality from the world which makes money: a blast calculated to dismay and insult the more refined world (frequently in bobble earrings) which spends it.

The lorries say to the ex-wife and the world: "Look, money

is not something you make elegantly. Money comes from heavy plant, and roaring engines, and concrete dust, and the sweat and worry of breakdowns and rotas and deadlines and penalty payments. You want money? OK, then, here are some big lorries. You make some money out of them, like I had to."

Everyone who works hard and passes on the money, whether to spouse or children, feels this way at times. Surgeons probably look at their socialite wives' latest set of ruched blouses and long to say: "Do you know how many bladder operations I had to do to pay for those?" Rumpole of the Bailey constantly laments his "nice little refreshers" being squandered on scouring-powder by a houseproud wife. The manageresses of laundrettes may be pleased to buy their children computer games, but wish that the children realised how many smelly service-washes, how many alien socks and underpants, were handled to pay for each electronic cartridge.

Even the physically cleaner professionals get flashes of the same feeling: a PR fixer whose family want a swimming-pool may be tempted to throw a Filofax at them, saying: "Here are the contacts, here are the clients — that's all I have to do with. If you want a swimming pool, then you hustle for it." A columnist may shriek at her children: "You left your bike out all night! Do you know how many off-the-cuff opinions that bike represents?"

The Lambert technique could catch on, with disaffected breadwinners rudely thrusting the raw material of their wealth at over-demanding families. Heaps of coal and corn and hardcore and organic fertiliser, Legal Aid clients, patients, lorries — all dumped defiantly on the doorsteps of the houses they so painstakingly paid for.

From now on, anybody married to a maggot-farmer, tanner or slaughterman should be very, very careful not to get too shrill in their demands. And I like to think that the next divorce of a West End theatrical entrepreneur will be marked by the arrival on the ex's doorstep of the entire chorus, ringing the bell and pouting crossly: "Boss says we're to work out the rest of our contract for you. What's the show?"



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286 33MHz, 4MB RAM, 100MB HD, VGA, 3.5" floppy, 3.5" CD-ROM, 3.5" ZIP, 3.5" Jaz, 3.5" LS-120, 3.5" LS-160, 3.5" LS-240, 3.5" LS-320, 3.5" LS-400, 3.5" LS-480, 3.5" LS-560, 3.5" LS-640, 3.5" LS-720, 3.5" LS-800, 3.5" LS-880, 3.5" LS-960, 3.5" LS-1040, 3.5" LS-1120, 3.5" LS-1200, 3.5" LS-1280, 3.5" LS-1360, 3.5" LS-1440, 3.5" LS-1520, 3.5" LS-1600, 3.5" LS-1680, 3.5" LS-1760, 3.5" LS-1840, 3.5" LS-1920, 3.5" LS-2000, 3.5" LS-2080, 3.5" LS-2160, 3.5" LS-2240, 3.5" LS-2320, 3.5" LS-2400, 3.5" LS-2480, 3.5" LS-2560, 3.5" LS-2640, 3.5" LS-2720, 3.5" LS-2800, 3.5" LS-2880, 3.5" LS-2960, 3.5" LS-3040, 3.5" LS-3120, 3.5" LS-3200, 3.5" LS-3280, 3.5" LS-3360, 3.5" LS-3440, 3.5" LS-3520, 3.5" LS-3600, 3.5" LS-3680, 3.5" LS-3760, 3.5" LS-3840, 3.5" LS-3920, 3.5" LS-4000, 3.5" LS-4080, 3.5" LS-4160, 3.5" LS-4240, 3.5" LS-4320, 3.5" LS-4400, 3.5" LS-4480, 3.5" LS-4560, 3.5" LS-4640, 3.5" LS-4720, 3.5" LS-4800, 3.5" LS-4880, 3.5" LS-4960, 3.5" LS-5040, 3.5" LS-5120, 3.5" LS-5200, 3.5" LS-5280, 3.5" 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Matthew Parris



■ The true scandals of our time have not been personal peccadilloes, but great public blights

It is drizzling on Skye, but no less beautiful for that. Rain and pale sun sweep in curtains across the islands.

I arrived in the Highlands yesterday, on what was to have been the last sleeper train to Fort William. The service has been reprieved but it cannot be for long. Such a train is a comfortable means of travel but clearly hopelessly uneconomic and pretty marginal to the huge tourist industry of the Highlands and Islands: just a nice way for a few to get from London and back: a London issue, really, not a Highland one.

Perhaps it is impertinent for the rest of us to suggest what ought to be Highland issues, but sometimes outsiders notice things to which those who live with them have become blind. One such is plain: Scotland, like Ireland, is making an awful mess of its countryside. I imagine that for the past 30 years or so, North-west Scotland has had building controls, but it certainly does not look like it. Fragile landscapes are gashed by geometrical lines of public housing, littered with breeze-block private bungalows scattered across the hills like packing cases dropped from a bus, and scarred by the march of grey pipes and pylons. The broken greenery of Kent and Hampshire can take a lot of this and digest it, but the

Let's turn the spotlight on the perpetrators of these offences against the spirit

empty, washed pastels and treeless sweep of Northern Britain cannot; yet they seem less careful here about planning controls than we are in the Home Counties.

The view over Portree, a not unpleasant harbour town in Skye, is now utterly ruined by one great standing insult to its inhabitants and their visitors. Portree High School squats on the hillside behind the town: a big, long, low Seventies-style barrack block of a building in flat grey concrete, absolutely unredeemed by modesty, warmth, or any kind of grace. It is neither respectful of its local architectural heritage nor interesting or brave or hopeful with any kind of futurism. It is just ugly, brutal: a sort of bureaucratic male fist in the face of the whole town.

And I am sitting here in the pleasant little Kings Harbour Hotel — a white, three-storey town house that does no harm to anyone but doubtless suffers the daily attentions of the local government army, with its fire inspectors and their infernal fire doors — growing more and more angry that those very bureaucrats can get away with throwing lumps of concrete abuse like Portree High School at the public, and giving themselves planning permission to do so.

I suppose I shall return to London to find the media fixated in horror and indignation by another "political

scandal". Which will be the latest minister of whom it is said that ten years ago he did or didn't enjoy a weekend in Paris? Which parliamentary private secretary will be next to find some old or new romance the subject of an in-depth investigation in a Sunday newspaper? I can hardly wait. I yield to nobody, I am sure, in my dismay at the discovery that MPs are human. The shock is immense. The plea by these reprobates that their mistakes remain private is of course outrageous. If someone does wrong, he deserves censure, surely?

But somebody designed that school in Portree. And someone recommended to a planning committee that the plans be passed. And somebody passed the plans. And Portree High School is a bigger sin than a whole generation of Tory ministers' private peccadilloes combined can approach.

Why don't we offer probing journalists a new target for their investigations, and their readers a new target for moral outrage? This high school is hurting people. It has lowered a million spirits. It has spoiled a whole town.

It has wrecked many tourists' early view of Skye. What hope does any youngster passing through these concrete portals every day for his education have of retaining any sense of standards in architectural life? Why, then, is it not of media interest to track down the man or men responsible, and hound them out of public life — or, if in retirement, drag them back into the limelight, like war criminals in the autumn of their years, and make examples of them?

Let us camp on their lawns, doozer their wives and harass their children. Let us demand to hear their side of the story — how they were "only obeying orders" or how "it seemed normal by the standards of the time" — and jeer at them. Let us photograph them at dawn, surprised in their dressing gowns at the doors of their £200,000 luxury homes towards which the public purse has contributed over their careers. Let us show them photographs of what they have done: confront them with the evidence, ask them if they have no remorse, and ask them why.

All over Britain — at the DoE towers, in Marsham Street, at Hungerford Bridge by Charing Cross, at a thousand 1950s and '60s post offices, and here at Portree High School — stand monuments to the brutality, indifference and spiritual corruption of people in public life. This, truly, is wickedness. And we sit at Westminster, tut-tutting about knickers, mistresses and weekends at the Ritz.

Modern communications mean the rich will decline to pay for the old-style welfare state

You can't tax those you can't catch

William Rees-Mogg

increasingly having to compete with the very low labour costs of Asia. Whether one taxes income or expenditure, wages are the heart of the tax base. At present, German and Japanese labour costs are about 200 times those of China; Britain and the United States are on a lower multiple, but still well over a hundred. As these labour costs are reduced, the taxes that can be raised from them will also fall. There will be fewer wage-earners in the next century in the welfare state countries, and they will be paid less.

The information age has already produced a global shift in opportunity, as did the first Industrial Revolution. A relatively small group of people have the brains and education to take full advantage of the new age: they are becoming steadily richer. Opportunities for the unskilled are declining. This shift of income and wealth has already made the United States, where the process has gone furthest, the nation with the largest differentials of income.

The top 1 per cent of American taxpayers pay a quarter of US income tax, and the top 5 per cent pay half. The information age is international. More than half of this top 5 per cent of American taxpayers could earn their incomes in any part of the globe given access to a telephone, a fax machine and the Internet. That is why the Clinton Administration has panicked at the idea that Americans might give up their citizenships and

their tax responsibilities. The US claims the right to tax its citizens worldwide, and cannot afford to lose the revenue from its highest earners.

Classic tax theories suggest that taxation can be levied only on people who are inside a country's jurisdiction and on transactions which can be captured by the taxing authority. The information age has already made it possible for many people to work in a jurisdiction of their choice. I am, in fact, writing this article in Somerset, after three recent visits to

reference library. Now it is moving into a transactional stage, which makes it more resemble a giant market. As the 10 per cent of Americans who are already connected to the Internet, or to other electronic communications networks, probably control more than 80 per cent of America's liquid capital, the move from information retrieval to transactions will be immensely important. The Internet, with the other electronic systems, will become the main marketplace of the world, on which an absolute majority of the larger business transactions may well be done.

Already it has been shown how hard it is to protect copyright on the Internet. Scientific journals published on the net have virtually no protection. Far more dramatic is the question whether one can protect tax. For instance, a new facility, still in an early stage of development, is Internet gambling. Belize has registered a mutual betting system which operates on a 2 per cent take for the managers. Most countries have betting taxes, and many have national lotteries which take up to 50 per cent of the money. Tax authorities cannot record Internet bets; if they cannot record them, they will not be able to tax them, except on a purely voluntary basis. Encryption will make Internet even harder to police, though in practical terms it has already proved impossible, since even the sender does not know which of

millions of possible channels his message will pass through.

The welfare state will, therefore, break up, not because right-wing politicians want it to, but because it is entering a period in which the demands will increase and the resources will diminish. There will be fewer people of working age to support it. The tax base of the welfare countries will be shrinking rapidly, partly because high earners will tend to move to the most favourable tax jurisdictions, and partly because encrypted transactions cannot be detected in cyberspace.

All of this is happening extraordinarily fast, particularly the revolution in communications. The number of people connected to the Internet has been doubling every year. The services offered have also been at least doubling annually. This could mean that the global size and use of the network has been growing fourfold in a year. Its use could therefore grow by 16 times in two years, and more than a thousand times in as little as five years. Politicians will have to learn that the tax-base, like copyright, tends to disappear in cyberspace, and cannot be recaptured.

At a meeting in Maryland last week, I was discussing the size of the American tax-base when the electronic systems are fully mature. Everyone in the group regarded the Group of Seven's tax take of 40-50 per cent of GDP as out of the question. The least well informed member of the group, myself, suggested the possibility of Hong Kong's 20 per cent. Those who knew more doubted whether the taxing potential at the end of the first quarter of the 21st century would even be above the 10 per cent which was the 19th-century average. Either way, the tax-and-spend bargain of the welfare state would be impossible. It could also be rather hard for 21st-century governments to finance a world war.

When ministers must decide

Peter Riddell says that regulators cannot take the place of politicians

Norman Fowler was widely ridiculed when he called his memoirs *Ministers Decide*. That is the last thing many do, as civil servants complain. Not only do ministers, from the highest down, often prevaricate, but they also like pushing decisions off onto someone else. Since the late 1980s, there has been an epidemic of buck-passing to the new breed of regulators. This has changed the constitutional balance in a way scarcely appreciated. Only the most confident ministers are now prepared to second-guess regulators, as both Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine have done this month.

The new regulators have been created specifically to shift responsibility away from ministers. Going under ugly acronyms like Ofwat or Ofsted, they are now responsible for wide swaths of British life. The regulators of the privatised utilities alone cover one-fifth of the economy. Sir Iain Vallance of BT has complained that the regulator is "legislator, prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner", exercising more power than the Prime Minister.

But there are now regulators for many other areas. In education, Ofsted is responsible for inspecting schools. There is even a lotteries regulator, Oflot, who is supposed to supervise the operations of the National Lottery. And last week's White Paper on media ownership talked about creating a media regulator, leaving open whether a new body should be created, or the powers should be shared by the existing competition regulators, like the Office of Fair Trading, together with the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority. And there are a multitude



of financial and City regulators. The common thread is the attempt to take the politics out of government decisions — to show that ministers are not interfering day by day. This exercise in self-restraint is an illusion. Stephen Littlechild is no less an agent of the State when he sets price limits for electricity companies than Mr Heseltine would be.

But this system has been vital for the successful flotation of the privatised utilities. Financial institutions would not have bought their shares if they had believed that Whitehall would continue to intervene over prices and investment. But most utilities have largely remained monopolies, at least for household consumers, so regulation has been necessary to prevent abuse of market positions. This has been achieved by a classic British compromise, a fixed

price cap which encourages companies to raise profit margins by becoming more efficient. After a set period, usually five years, the regulator then adjusts the formula, usually by tightening the price control and so passing on future benefits of efficiency improvements to consumers.

This system puts a big burden on the regulators, since they have wide powers of discretion. Professor Littlechild, for example, has interpreted his brief as being primarily to boost competition. His decisions have had a huge effect on accelerating the rundown of the coal industry and the rapid expansion of gas production, as well as on electricity generation and distribution.

The regulators are constitutional

hybrids, in theory accountable via ministers to Parliament, but in practice largely freestanding. Few MPs have any interest in regulation. Ian Ryan, the water regulator, has only once appeared before a Commons select committee in five years. Most ministers are happy to delegate tricky decisions to the regulator.

But the system is unsatisfactory. It depends too much on the individuals concerned, as Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, has admitted. And when regulators take controversial decisions, as Professor Littlechild did a couple of months ago in reopening his price review of last August, the impact can be vast. Share prices tumbled. Yet he is not accountable for his decisions. Jack Cunningham, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, has made proposals to strengthen accountability and trans-

parency, while replacing the current highly personalised approach with small regulatory panels.

There are still, however, inherent uncertainties about what should be decided by regulators and what by ministers. The strong belief that the former are somehow better lies behind the campaign for an independent Bank of England. But even if making the Bank responsible for monetary policy produces lower inflation, decisions on interest rates obviously have far-reaching political implications for the government of the day. That is why Mr Clarke has been willing only to give the Bank a more independent voice, rather than control over monetary policy. That increases the risks, as Mr Clarke showed three weeks ago when he overruled Eddie George's advice to raise interest rates. So far, developments in currency markets and the economic statistics have gone in his favour. But the markets now have doubts about the credibility of the Government's inflation policy. The buck is still with the Chancellor. Labour at present proposes to go only slightly further, hinting at giving the Bank greater operational freedom within inflation and financial targets still set by the Government.

Similarly, last Tuesday, Mr Heseltine took the rare step of overruling a majority recommendation of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, for the first time in eight years, when he allowed GEC to bid for VSEL, the Barrow-based builder of nuclear submarines. This has raised further questions not only about Mr Heseltine's commitment to promoting competition, but also about the way decisions are taken.

Most ministers are content to shuffle off responsibility to regulators and to pretend that the decisions are therefore not political. Regulators are crucial intermediaries — especially in a world where politicians are distrusted — but they cannot be left to their own devices. Mr Heseltine believes, like Mr Clarke, that on some issues ministers have to overrule regulators. Some decisions are unavoidably political, and for better or worse politicians must take a view. Ministers do have to decide, and accept the consequences.

Off the rails

WHAT WITH "ghost" trains, dirty tricks and fantasy accounting, the great debate over the West Highland sleeper service is descending into farce. The latest bend in the track is Scotland's decision that from tomorrow the remaining train drivers on the threatened line should spend much of their time not in engine cabs but in taxi-cabs.

Rather than leave drivers who complete the run to sit waiting — and earning overtime — at Fort William for a returning train, the railway company is ordering them to take taxis for the 106-mile journey over the moors back to Glasgow. Each journey is likely to clock up £110 on the meter.

As Edinburgh's Court of Session decides on Thursday whether to revoke the "Deenstalker Express", Scotland's latest move has enragated the line's fans, who seem to include half the House of Lords.

"I'm amazed," says Inverness-shire landowner Lord Rankine, whose ancestors helped to build the railway in the middle of last century. "This business of cabbage people back is ludicrous. They should just go back on another train." Less surprised is the for-

mer Defence Minister Alan Clark. "That is just what I would expect from them. It has gone far beyond a matter of economics. It is a matter of not losing face."

As a regular user of the line, Clark described such an attitude as characteristic of "dud management". "They will do anything to show their decision is correct. They don't realise how ridiculous it makes them look."

Heckles rise

ONE OF the more unusual characters on the comedy circuit at the moment is a Dutch comedian by the name of Raoul Heerle. Fortunately for British punters, his show is in English. Audiences have been more baffled by the heckling.

At the Oxford Comedy Stage the other day there was some quite serious barracking — in Dutch. A gentleman of advancing years stood up in the middle of a routine about Britain no longer being the superpower it thought it was.

"The problem was that nobody understood what he was saying, so the effect was somewhat diminish-

ed," says one non-Dutch-speaker. "Eventually Heerle started translating the heckles and the old boy soon sat down. It seemed the heckler was agreeing with what he was saying. But we wouldn't know."

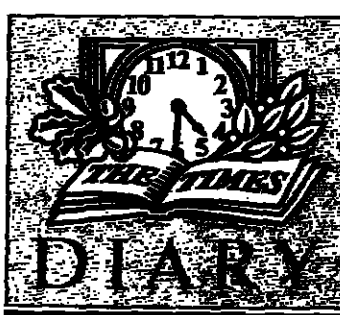
Backwardsman

AS John Godfrey contemplates his political future after his disastrous showing in the Perth and Kinross by-election, he may care to remember the fate of another Scottish Tory who came third in a by-election, in 1978.

Before inheriting the Earldom of Dundee (his other titles include Vis-



Glenys Kinnock: VIP perks



count Dudgeon), this aristocratic young chap unwisely stood for the working-class seat of Hamilton, where he polled a mere 4,818 votes. Nor did the poor chap win over the press pack during his campaign. At the end, one co-operated back inquired: "Sir, is there anything you can do?"

"Certainly," retorted the Old Etonian in high dudgeon. "I can spell my name backwards." And he promptly proceeded to do so: "R-U-O-E-G-M-Y-R-C-S-D-R-O-L."

Despite being well ensconced in first class on the Euro gray train, Glenys Kinnock still counts the pennies. When Cardiff International Airport was sold off for £37.6 million to property developers TBI in April, one of the first callers was the Welsh MEP, fearful she might now have to pay for parking her car

there. Momentarily taken aback by her call, the astute executive swiftly promised her "free, secure VIP car parking".

Encore

ALARMS sounded in Ditchling, Sussex, on Saturday night when the local celebrity, Dame Vera Lynn, was guest of honour at a slightly belated VE celebration concert on the village green — but did not sing. Had she finally retired at the age of 78?

"She retired in 1946 when our daughter was born," declares Harry Lewis, her husband and agent. "Since then she's done 47 Burma Star reunions alone."

Surrounded by sacks of letters from well-wishers across the globe, he added: "Sometimes I say, 'This time you must give it up because it puts a lot of strain on you.' Then another special request comes along..."

Call our man

A MORE DRAMATIC than usual programme can be expected in Clive Anderson's next series *Our Man in...* While filming at the weekend in the Nigerian capital of Lagos, Anderson and his BBC-TV



Clive Anderson, who can look arresting at the best of times

crew were arrested by the police. After two hours of questioning about their papers, Anderson sought the help of the British Consul, who helped to secure their release. The series production manager, Jenny Zarit, reports: "It was very frightening. Now they are all sleeping off a very weary day."

● Lady Archer has turned her energy-efficient eye upon her novelist

husband Jeffrey's workplace, declaring the Palace of Westminster to be an "absolute nightmare" to heat efficiently. "One problem is that the doors are always left open," she says in the current issue of *Building magazine*. "However, some people would say there is plenty of hot air generated..."

P.H.S

هكذا في الرجل



CONFRONTING TERROR

Britain must stand up to the kidnappers in Bosnia

The capture and humiliation of United Nations troops, including more than 30 Britons, by the Bosnian Serbs is an outrage. Pictures of men chained to posts and hangar doors, interviews recorded under duress, the sight of UN soldiers pushed around by masked gunmen, rival in cynicism and barbarity anything attempted by Saddam Hussein. Setting deadlines and bargaining with the lives of hostages is as despicable as it is brutal. The escalation of the war by Bosnian Serbs, rightly described by UN spokesmen as terrorists, has brought to a halt the international humanitarian operation and paralysed the United Nations. It must not be allowed to paralyse Britain's determination to liberate its hostages, to defend its troops and carry out its mission in Bosnia with vigour, honour and grit.

In its paranoia, the Bosnian Serb leadership now brands as enemies all those sent to save the women, children and old people who for three years have been starving and dying under the shells and mortars raining down on Sarajevo. Tuzla and other so-called UN safe havens. By seizing men from different national contingents General Mladic and his gunmen hope to cause consternation in New York and all the foreign capitals where efforts are under way to halt bloodshed. In this, he has succeeded.

All the contradictions of the UN operation have been laid bare. Diplomats, in a flurry of crisis meetings, are floundering. The Contact Group is as devoid of new ideas as the Owen-Stoltenberg negotiating team, still limping in the background. International peacekeeping has been shown to be incompatible with a full-scale civil war, and all the nations contributing troops to former Yugoslavia have miscalculated the scale of the combatants' ferocity, duplicity and indifference to the suffering of their enemies.

General Mladic's use of human shields halted a planned third NATO airstrike, and has forced a reassessment of the use of air power. But if he is hoping that threats of random execution — the tactics of aircraft hijackers — would sow dissension in UN ranks and bolster calls for an early withdrawal, he is wrong. Both Britain and France, the principal troop contributors, insist they will not give in to blackmail. Jacques Chirac voiced doubts during the election campaign on continuing such a

thankless operation; no newly elected President is about to order his troops home, beaten and humiliated. The French are angry. They have lost men targeted by snipers. They are in one of the most exposed theatres of the war. They are demanding a change of UN mandate and a change of tactics, and can count on British support.

In planning its response, the Government must bear three things in mind. First, withdrawal in the present circumstances is impossible — the troops in Gorazde are trapped. Without a properly equipped evacuation force on the ground, a military confrontation with the Serbs, or with any of the other combatants who might oppose withdrawal, would be absurd. Secondly, this crisis, though the most serious, is not the first to beset the ill-defined UN operation. The confrontations over the no-fly zones, the impounding of heavy weapons around Sarajevo, the periodic seizure of UN personnel and the angry recriminations between Contact Group members have all threatened to drag the outside world into the quagmire. No government, however, has an electoral mandate to go beyond the present humanitarian operation, however much the American Congress and the Muslim side urge a partisan military response. Thirdly, diplomacy must continue as long as the UN forces remain. Not only is the credibility of the UN itself and NATO at stake; large parts of Bosnia, at present peaceful, are only spared an all-out war because of the international presence.

The immediate need therefore is to give the UN force greater protection. Troops should be given more arms, greater discretion and a clearer mandate. The rules of engagement must be revised. No new UN resolution is needed; the old phrase "all necessary means" should mean precisely that: a robust military response to any attack. Britain should immediately undertake practical and symbolic moves to bolster its troops' security. Light artillery could be rushed to central Bosnia. A pro-active stance could send out a clear signal to all sides. Britain, like other Western allies, will not risk its men's lives in an interminable tribal feud. But nor will it be driven from its international responsibilities by terrorism. That message must be forced through, even into narrow Balkan minds.

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CHURCH MANAGEMENT

The clergy must learn the workings of Mammon as well as God

The news that the Church of England is employing headhunters to choose its chief headhunter will be welcome to all those who pray that this rather ramshackle organisation can improve the way in which it is run. Two lay monks, Anthony Saxton and Stephen Bamfylde, who run one of Britain's top ten headhunting firms, are to give their services free to the Church in order to find a suitable replacement for the retiring archbishop's appointments secretary. They will also help to introduce innovative management techniques for the training of clergy.

The appointment of one man or woman may sound relatively trivial. Yet the candidate who wins will lead the hunt for new bishops and archbishops, probably having more influence than anyone else on the efficiency of the Church. The organisation is highly devolved: bishops have the authority to do what they like in their own dioceses. And at least a quarter of the 43 diocesan bishops are due to retire before the end of the century. So the choice of the right people to fill these shoes will be immensely important to the future good workings of the Church.

Even at the top, the Church has been beset by bad management, particularly of its money. The Church Commissioners lost a staggering £800 million between 1989 and 1991, mainly through irresponsible property investments financed by borrowing. The Church's capital base may soon be less than half of what it was in the 1980s. According to a Commons select committee report, such

incompetence has "in all likelihood done more than any other single act to destroy the parish system of the national Church".

The example set to parish priests and their superiors is not encouraging. But nor have the bishops themselves been blameless. Lincoln Cathedral is still suffering from a disastrous venture in 1988, when its copy of Magna Carta was taken to Australia, supposedly to raise money. The exhibition won donations of less than £1,000 and cost the cathedral £56,000. The ecclesiastical authorities were powerless to intervene.

When one of the canons involved eventually resigned, it was with some bitterness. The Ven Christopher Laurence wrote nostalgically in the cathedral chapter newsletter of "the days before the Church, along with all the secular institutions, fell down to worship before the altar of the great god Management. Nowadays, it seems, we clergy are held to fall short when we fail to exhibit the appropriate team skills and management abilities."

There are plenty of opportunities for men and women who have spiritual vocations but little managerial ability to serve the Church. If they are to be responsible for organisational and financial matters, however, they must expect to be competent in these fields. With so much independence given to more than 10,000 clergy and 115 bishops and their assistants, it is vital that the people who fill these jobs are carefully chosen and properly trained. Parishioners, and future generations, deserve no less.

GLOBE ALIVE

Shakespeare's rebuilt theatre is a stage for all the world

In 1949 a young American actor, Sam Wanamaker, went to Southwark to pay his respects to the memorial to Shakespeare he expected to find on the site of the old Globe Theatre. But the only intimation that the playwright and the playhouse had their roots in the area was a blackened plaque on the wall of a run-down brewery. At that point an Englishman would probably have muttered something fatalistic about government neglect and trudged back home. But Wanamaker, uniquely combined American optimism, enterprise and energy with eccentricity. He decided to rebuild Shakespeare's Globe.

His loving replica is now near completion. Everything, from the oak balusters to the Norfolk-reed thatch, is as authentic as scholarly research and traditional craftsmanship can make it. Even with a second Tate Gallery rather than bear-baiting coming to the derelict power station next door, it promises to be an astonishing rebirth.

Next summer the theatre will be ready for the descendants of the groundlings who stood in the open air and watched Richard Burbage as Hamlet quail at Shakespeare himself as the Ghost. Sadly, Wanamaker died in 1993, too soon to see the triumph of a Herculean crusade that included such

labours as routing the council-chamber Puritans who saw the project as an elitist conspiracy, winning over the cynics in his own profession, and raising nearly £10 million, all from private sources.

The project's supporters now range from the Duke of Edinburgh, its patron, and John Gielgud, its president, to Diana Rigg, John Thaw and Bob Hoskins. Yet a worry persists. The Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre, barely a mile away, provide a perpetual flow of classic drama. Has the Globe anything to add except a kind of pre-technological perfectionism? Has the great American eccentric built his adoptive country a great folly?

Surely not. The Globe has everything to teach actors, directors, academics and audiences about the conditions for which the Bard wrote — and about the plays themselves. If its new leadership can sustain that American belief, ambition and derring-do, and remember that the raffish Southwark of the 1600s catered more for Mercurio and Falstaff than Angelo and Malvolio, there is every reason to hope for exciting performers in exciting productions in an exciting building. London and its visitors will have the monument to Shakespeare Wanamaker could not find, but this time a living one.

Search for end to Bosnian conflict

From Mr Kenneth Lindsay

Sir, On February 5, 1994, whilst serving in Sarajevo as the British Forces Detachment Commander, attached to UNHCR, I watched the blood run in the gutters on Marsali Tito, at the site of the market massacre, where more than 60 innocents were killed by a mortar bomb. The following day I assisted the UN in its evacuation of more than 200 casualties and families from the city, victims of that atrocity and of other actions of the war.

When I left Sarajevo, just over a month later, calm had been restored in the city and all sides displayed a willingness to come to the negotiating table. This had been achieved by a mixture of strong leadership from General Rose and the support of NATO and the UN in his adoption of a tough line with the belligerents.

Today, we are faced with the same horrific images of mass slaughter, dozens are dead and we must feel that we have once again failed the people of the Balkans. Surely it is now time that we commit ourselves to a resolution of the conflict. Britain must realise that the Bosnian Serb Government does not deserve our sympathy and we must support the legitimate Government of Bosnia, already recognised by us, regardless of the circumstances of that recognition.

We cannot allow these terrorists to continue their massacre in Bosnia. We would not allow it in Northern Ireland, for instance, or Kuwait, or South Africa. Why are we prepared to stand and watch this slow slaughter in the Balkans?

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH LINDSAY,
2 Fobury Avenue, Wareham, Dorset.
May 26.

From Mr Branko Marjan

Sir, So far warnings and reminders have only been carried out against one side in this conflict. This policy encourages the Bosnian Government and further isolates the Serbian side, putting them in an impossible position and forcing them to take extreme measures to protect their interests.

The Russians are quite right, air strikes — particularly one-sided ones — are not the answer. The solution lies in treating both sides equally and fairly, balanced negotiation and exchange of lands and regions between the warring factions. Further escalation is in no one's interest.

Yours,
B. MARJIAN,
Kälichbühlstr 114, 8038 Zürich.
May 27.

Universities league

From Professor A. N. Broers,
FRS, FEng, Master of
Churchill College

Sir, Edwin Bowater wrote (letter, May 23) of the difficulty he had encountered in gaining a postgraduate placement at a German university. As head of the department in which he graduated I did my best to help him to achieve his ambition. I wrote to the German university concerned and spoke on the phone to their senior officers and to officials elsewhere in Germany. Mrs Juliet Campbell, Mistress of his college, Gorton, also made efforts on his behalf.

I do not think that the difficulty was the lack of British influence in Europe but simply that it was not possible to avoid the German requirement for a minimum duration of study at a university. In Germany an engineer cannot qualify for postgraduate study on the basis of a three-year university course.

We came to a conclusion that a three-year course is not long enough for the training of modern engineers in Cambridge several years ago. We now have a new and completely revised four-year course and will produce our first four-year graduates in 1996. Four-year courses, however, are not likely to be introduced by many more universities because we understand from the Higher Education Funding Council for England that the Government's policy is not to increase the average course length of university degrees.

Yours sincerely,
ALEC N. BROERS
(Head of Department),
Cambridge University Engineering
Department,
Trumpington Street, Cambridge.

Railwaymen's ballot

From Mr Richard Law

Sir, Leaders of rail unions, as they sign ballot their members, are once more complaining about government "interference" in wage negotiations. As someone whose taxes help to subsidise the railways I'd think the Government was failing in its obligations if its attitude were wholly detached.

Logic requires that railwaymen who object to interference should support policies leading in the short term to privatisation and in the long term to the elimination of all subsidy.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LAW,
53 Gloucester Crescent, NW1.
May 26.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Do calculators spoil our children?

From Mr S. J. Mills

Sir, I was dismayed to read of further doubt regarding the value of calculators in the primary years (report, May 23). Why are we, as an increasingly technological society, unwilling to embrace this particular piece of technology? Do we conclude that restrictions should be placed on the use of typewriters because of their effect on handwriting, or on motor vehicles for their effect on the nation's cardiovascular systems?

There is copious evidence to support the use of calculators in primary schools. At last we can shift sufficient emphasis towards when to do an addition or division rather than simply on how to do it. The ability to apply mathematics to the challenges of the future has never been more important. Let us accept this powerful means of calculation, as we did previously with the abacus, and concentrate on helping children to develop complementary mental skills to be used as a first resort.

Above all, let us appreciate that a calculator is not an end in itself: it is only of value if we can do something with it.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. MILLS,
University of Reading,
Department of Science and
Technology,
Woodlands Avenue,
Reading, RG6 1HY.
May 23.

From Dr P. Glaister

Sir, As one of many lecturers nationwide charged with smoothing the transition from school to university for students embarking on a mathematics degree, I very much welcome the School and Curriculum Assessment Authority's inquiry into pupils' use of calculators. It is my impression

that many of these students lack basic arithmetical skills.

It is easy to forget that calculators, like their more modern counterpart the computer, are merely tools to help those who already understand what they are doing. Giving a primary school pupil a calculator is like giving an infant a word-processor before it can write.

For my sins I also scrutinise students' calculators before they take them into an examination. This helps to minimise the opportunity to cheat. I find it deeply disturbing that many students now treat their calculators like a life-support machine which they cannot do without.

I would like to see the current trend reversed.

Yours faithfully,
P. GLAISTER,
University of Reading,
Department of Mathematics,
PO Box 220, Whiteknights,
Reading, RG6 6AF.
May 23.

From Dr D. F. Burgess

Sir, For two years I have been the principal of a secondary school in the Nigerian bush.

The parent of a child who took our entrance examination this week and did very badly in mathematics claimed that her son should receive special concession because he was currently being educated in a London primary school and could not, therefore, be expected to meet our high standards.

Despite all its problems, Nigeria appears to be getting some things right.

Yours,
D. F. BURGESS (Principal),
Oshosho International School,
Prince Oladele Oshosho Way,
Ikoko-Ijesha, PO Box 2,
Ijebu-Ijesha, Osun State, Nigeria.
May 19.

Fear of free-for-all in roadside signs

From Lord Chorley, Chairman of
The National Trust

Sir, I write in support of Lord Montagu of Beaulieu's letter (May 22) in connection with the Government's proposals for an expansion in the eligibility criteria for tourism road signs.

The National Trust shares his concerns about a visual "free-for-all" and for the importance of standards of consistency. We particularly regret the proposal to remove tourist boards from the approval process, as they have accepted some responsibility for promoting environmental objectives, and are better placed than the highway authorities to insist on national consistency.

The ensuing proliferation of signs would be especially serious in designated areas such as national parks, but it would be deplorable in the open landscape as a whole.

One of the worst aspects of our urban environment is visual clutter in our streets, which can be intrusive and offensive. Perhaps it may be necessary in our towns but let us not compound the situation by allowing it to spread unnecessarily to our wonderful countryside.

Yours faithfully,
CHORLEY,
Chairman, The National Trust,
36 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
May 23.

From Mr Michael Preston

Sir, You report that the Design Council "believes that design isn't something you stick on afterwards" (Diary, May 22), so may we hope that it will prevent energetically to prevent the free-for-all on tourist signs so well predicted by Lord Montagu in his letter on the same day?

The elegant motorway lettering and signs devised by Jack Kimber in the 1960s were so much the envy of other countries that their superior quality can be seen reflected in much new signage around the world.

Swans and anglers

From Mr Duncan V. Fairley

Sir, I would like to reassure your readers that applications for licences to shoot swans (report, May 22) are extremely rare, and that it is not the anglers who have swans in their sights.

The swan population increase is one of the success stories of our time and, although not instigated by anglers, it has been applauded by them everywhere. It is the difficult job of the farmers and commercial trout fisheries, whose livelihoods are affected, to devise effective measures of control.

Anglers are constantly vigilant at the waterside and, through such organisations as the Specialist Anglers Conservation Group (of which I am a member) and the Anglers Conservation Association, they have frequently instigated action against major polluters; their presence has a very positive effect on the protection of aquatic life and environments, both of which are under constant threat from farming and industry.

We welcome the sight of these majestic birds, and it upsets us when we are alleged to wish them harm.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN V. FAIRLEY,
23 Swinburne Crescent,
Croydon, Surrey.
May 22.

Arts and lottery

From Professor Anthony Field

Sir, The Secretary-General of the Arts Council is right to say (letter, May 22) that "most of the organisations applying for lottery funds are chronically underfunded".

As the council's financial director (1958-85) I continually recommended all arts organisations to make proper annual provision for depreciation of buildings and equipment. Unfortunately, with their chronic lack of funds this was the first expense to be cut from budgets, hence the sad condition of most of our theatres, concert halls, opera houses and dance centres, many of them built with the aid of the council's Housing the Arts funds, now no longer available.

Thus, National Lottery grants will be invaluable in providing for the repairs and renewals which should have been made in the past decades. They will enable organisations to increase their income by providing a better service to patrons and will even, hopefully, help support such theatres as Chichester Festival and Minerva theatres, which do not at present receive any Arts Council revenue funding.

Yours truly,
ANTHONY FIELD,
152 Cromwell Tower, Barbican, EC2.
May 25.

Putting Oscar on a pedestal

From Sir Peregrine Worsthorne

Sir, "Oscar Wilde, the writer and the man, deserves a public memorial in London, in addition to the window panel recently inscribed in Westminster Abbey". So writes Mr Jeremy Isaacs and a dozen or so other dignitaries in their letter today, pointedly choosing to announce their proposal for a new statue on the anniversary of his conviction.

About the justification for honouring the writer there can be no question. But the same does not apply to the man. For while addition to the use and corruption of male prostitutes should no longer put a man in prison for two years' hard labour, neither should it necessarily justify putting him on a pedestal forever.

Yours faithfully,
PEREGRINE WORTHORNE,
The Old Rectory,
Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire,
May 25.

From Mr Peter Forster

Sir, A statue of Oscar Wilde is no new idea. He himself proposed presenting one to his old Oxford college, to stand in the centre of the quad — "a colossal equestrian statue", he told the President of Magdalen, Sir Herbert Warren.

Now, Sir, there is that long-occupied pedestal in the northwest corner of Trafalgar Square...

Yours faithfully,
PETER FORSTER,
30 Wilberforce Road, N4.
May 26.

From Sir Hugh Leggatt

Sir, Your distinguished correspondent's inspirational plan to erect a statue of Oscar Wilde in Westminster to mark the centenary of his release from prison in 1897 must surely succeed.

There are too few sculptures of men and women of artistic achievement in London and a fine representation of Wilde would help to redress the balance between artistic genius and men of war.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH LEGGATT,
Flat 1, 10 Bury Street, St James's, SW1.
May 25.

From Mr Robert Shaw

Sir, Today's proposal for a statue in theatreland to celebrate Oscar Wilde is greatly to be welcomed. Let us hope that a sculpture of greater style and wit can be achieved than that lumpen Epstein thing on his grave in Père Lachaise.

Yours,
ROBERT SHAW,
32 Foster Road, Chiswick, W4.
May 25.

Flying doctors

From Mr R. J. Ayling,
Group Managing Director,
British Airways

Sir, You have rightly praised the professional skill of Professor Angus Wallace and Dr Tom Wong who selflessly offered their services to Mrs Paula Dixon on the British Airways flight from Hong Kong on Saturday, May 20, as well as the professionalism of the British Airways cabin crew. And I would publicly like to add my thanks to everyone involved in this emergency.

As the story was breaking in the British newspapers (May 24; also letters, May 27) I was in Washington relating the episode to a dinner companion (a businessman, formerly a practising US lawyer). He echoed the point you made in your leader (May 24) that American doctors might well not have felt able to offer their services in this way for fear of the litigious consequences.

The experience of the United States (a country which I greatly admire) in its development of common law legal principles is a nightmare which we can still learn from.

Let us be sure that the development of appropriate systems of liability and compensation in Britain never discourage what happened on BA032 on May 20.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT AYLING,
Group Managing Director,
British Airways,
Speedbird House,
PO Box 10,
Heathrow Airport (London),
Hounslow, Middlesex.

No light matter

From Mr R. A. Phillips

Sir, As a larger than average airline passenger who for economic reasons, has to travel economy or cattle class, I welcome the news (report, May 15; also letters, April 29, May 9, 19) that the airlines have recognised that the average passenger's weight is somewhat higher than it used to be. When will they accept that this change is due not to an increase in body density but body volume and give us a little more space?

After a recent transatlantic flight I had to resort to physiotherapy to help my cramped and battered joints recover from their ordeal.

Yours sincerely,
R. A. PHILLIPS,
10 Broughton Avenue, Ham, Surrey.
May 26.

OBITUARIES

LOLA FLORES

Dolores "Lola" Flores Raiz, Spanish flamenco singer and dancer, died of cancer in Madrid on May 16 aged 72. She was born in Jerez de la Frontera on January 21, 1923.

THE daughter of a tavern owner in the sherry town of Jerez, Lola Flores led a life of passion, turbulence and popular acclaim. From the small girl who stamped out her flamenco on the tables of her father's bar, she rose to be the country's best-loved singer. In the years preceding her death she appeared almost to be living her life in the pages of *Hola*, *Semana* and *Diez Minutos*, the magazines which are the staple of Spanish housewives.

Flores's art defied classification. Although her idiom might broadly have been defined as that of the flamenco, there was much in it that purists of the genre would have rejected. Although only a quarter gypsy — for which she was called *Lola la negra* or "Lola the blackie" at school in Seville — she embraced the heritage of Spain's gypsy minority as firmly as the country's gypsies regarded her as one of their own.

In 1940, when her father sold up his Jerez bar, the family moved to Madrid where, at the age of 17, she met Manolo Caracol, a variety artist of some repute. Besides forming a stage duo, they were lovers in a tempestuous relationship for eight years before she broke away and left him for the Americas, where she made a stage debut in Mexico. Caracol was left behind in Madrid, but she always had a kind word for her first love: "With him I saw the best bullfighters, met the best performers and slept in the best hotels," she was later to say.

She devoted the next few years to the sentimental cinema which was a feature of Spain under Franco. She adorned such films as *El Balcon de la Luna* — with Carmen Sevilla and Paquita Rico, *La Niña de la Venta*, and *La Faraona*. The last — meaning "female pharaoh" — was the name by which Spain was to come to regard her with affection.

After a series of dalliances with footballers, bullfighters, filmstars and flamenco singers, Flores met and married the sturdy Catalan Antonio Gonzalez, known in Catalonia



as *El Pescallero*, a nickname suggestive of a species of small fish, though not actually translating as such. A gypsy and guitarist, *El Pescallero* is credited with the creation of the *Rumba Catalana*. Married in the Escorial in 1957, they produced three children and lived together to the end.

El Pescallero was now to ensure that she devoted her passion entirely to her art. Yet the Franco regime had taken her to its heart, too, and was to see in her the incarnation of that Andalusian folklorism which the General was intent on establishing as a cultural currency for all Spain.

Lola was to perform privately for Franco on numerous occasions. This earned her the bitter title in some quarters of *La Pasionaria del Interior* — or "La Pasionaria of the Home Ministry". Although she had no personal interest in allowing her art to be used as propaganda, any close contact with the Franco regime inevitably exposed one such as she was to such an accusation.

Nevertheless, it was not generally held against her in the long term. After Franco's death she was successfully to affirm to the "tribunal of all Spanish hearts" that she was the property of the people of

Spain and not of any one regime — the present Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez was as warm in her praise at her death as in her life.

Flores was as popular in Mexico, Cuba and other parts of South America as she was in Spain and made a number of tours to Latin American countries, as well as visiting the US.

But in later years she was to attract close scrutiny from the Spanish *Hacienda*, or inland revenue. After a long court battle, in which she was charged with massive tax evasion between the years 1982

and 1985, she escaped imprisonment on a technicality. Spain breathed a sigh of relief. Some were later to claim, at a time when the outcome of her trial was looking particularly ominous, that Lola had considered appealing to all Spaniards to contribute a *duro* — or five pesetas — each to save her from jail. She was later to deny this strenuously.

Breast cancer was later to rob her of much of her vigour, and her condition in the year before her death was one of constant deterioration.

She is survived by *El Pescallero* and by their two sons and a daughter.

MAJOR-GENERAL MICHAEL SCOTT

Major-General Michael Scott, Commandant Technical Group, REME, 1963-65, died on May 13 aged 83. He was born on October 25, 1911.

MIKE SCOTT was a man of paradox. Despite coming from a military family, he trained as a civilian engineer but, seeing the war coming, he accepted a commission in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps as an ordnance mechanical engineer in 1935 and, while serving in India, became an early member of the uniformed Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME).

By the early 1960s, after a varied military engineering career, he had reached the senior ranks of his Corps. Then, when he retired from the Army in 1965, he became a highly successful professional farmer.

The son of Colonel F. W. Scott of the Scots Greys, he was educated at Harrow and served an engineering apprenticeship with Penders at Yeovil, and Thornycrofts at Basingstoke. His first appointment was as an ordnance mechanical officer to the 1st Guards Brigade in Palestine during the prewar Arab revolt. The Army was in the process of mechanisation, and he commanded one of the first brigade LADs (Light Aid Detachments), looking after the Guards' transport.

Posted back home in 1937, he left for India a year later, serving briefly in Ferozepore and Lahore before being sent to the North West Frontier as an ordnance mechanical officer of Waziristan District at Der Ismail Khan in 1939. The Waziristan Campaign — the last to be fought by British troops on the Frontier — was being waged in the Ahmedzai Salient where the harsh ground conditions severely punished all the vehicles of the British field force.

When the Japanese invaded Burma, Scott was promoted lieutenant-colonel and sent to the 17th Indian Division as its Commander Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He served with the division throughout its operations in the Plain of Imphal. In late 1944 he was sent, as an operationally experienced officer, to the US Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.



He returned to England to become Commander Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (CREME) of the 1st Airborne Division, as it was being rebuilt after its losses at Arrhen. He was with it during the liberation of Norway at the end of the war in Europe.

After the war he had a short spell commanding Kinnear Workshop in Ulster before attending the Staff College, Camberley. He was perhaps disappointed not to receive a staff appointment straight away. Instead, he stayed with his Corps, commanding No 1 Central Vehicle Depot, and in 1947 became CREME of the 6th Airborne Division in Palestine during the final months of the British mandate. A year later he was given the only two non-specialist staff appointments of his career: GAQMGM in HQ Western Command and then GSOL in the War Office directorate of weapon development.

From 1951 onwards he advanced rapidly up the REME chain of command: as a colonel in HQ British Army of the Rhine, 1951-54; as a brigadier in HQ Middle East in Cyprus during the time of the Suez

landings, 1955-58; in Southern Command, 1959; and as Inspector REME, 1960-63. He was promoted major-general in 1963 and appointed Commandant of the Technical Group REME.

He retired from the Army in 1965 and bought a 200-acre dairy farm in Somerset, where he built up a fine pedigree Friesian herd. He was a man of striking appearance and kindly disposition, and was popular both in the Army and in the farming world.

He took a keen interest in local affairs, becoming a JP and vice-chairman of the Yeovil bench, and a member of the Deanery Synod. In 1968 he was appointed Colonel Commandant of REME, and he was president of the local district branch of the British Legion.

He was a keen yachtsman, particularly enjoying ocean racing, and took part in the Sydney-Hobart and Fastnet races. He was also a keen shot, and enjoyed shooting over his springer spaniels.

He married Laila Wallace (nee Tatchell) in 1961. He had no children. Laila and her son and daughters survive him.

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

The Earl of Clancarty, the author of books on unidentified flying objects (UFOs), died on May 18 aged 83. He was born on September 18, 1911.

IN INVESTIGATING A House of Lords debate on UFOs 16 years ago, the 8th Earl of Clancarty ensured himself a highly eccentric entry in the proceedings of that venerable chamber. On that occasion a bemused Lord Strabolgi, speaking for the Government, made clear that whatever else it believed in, on that particular theme the administration must inevitably remain sceptical. "Where are these alien spacecraft now?" he inquired.

As chairman of the Lords UFO study group, Clancarty had his own answer to that question, although not all members of the group endorsed his theory. He maintained that aliens from a number of differing galaxies had first peopled the Earth some 6500 years ago — thus accounting for the various races and colours of skin. Some still lived near the centre of the Earth, which they had entered through a series of tunnels at strategic points, the North and South Poles and Tibet being among these.

When once asked where these aliens had got to, he

replied: "Well, you do see a lot of strange people around, don't you?"

If not all peers accepted this unusual thesis, quite a number were clearly intrigued by the subject matter. The debate in 1979 attracted hundreds,

who fought their way into the Upper House's chamber. It was one of the best attended for some years.

Clancarty also wrote seven books in 14 years, which would seem to have sold well in the 1960s when interest in

space and the possibility of extraterrestrial life was beginning to grip the nation as dreams of manned space flight were gradually turned into a reality.

The Earl of Clancarty was born William Francis Brinsley Le Poer Trench, fifth son of the 5th Earl, and was brought up in London. The family had originally been Huguenots who had crossed the Channel from France 400 years ago, settling first in Northumberland then, later, as Anglo-Irish gentry in Co Galway.

Brinsley's most illustrious ancestor was the 2nd Earl who was Britain's Ambassador to The Hague early in the last century and was present at the Congress of Vienna after the Napoleonic Wars. The actor Tyrone Power was a later, somewhat distant, relative.

Brinsley Le Poer Trench went to Farnborough Nautical College and worked for a while selling advertising space for a gardening magazine. But he switched to full-time writing after publication of his first book in 1960.

On succeeding his half-

brother Greville as the 8th Earl in 1975 he developed a third career at the House of Lords. He was a tall, kindly man who, in addition to his obsession with UFOs, took an interest in health matters and defence. He regularly attend-

ed meetings of the all-party defence group as well as turning up faithfully for Lords debates. His books, all published under the name of Brinsley Le Poer Trench, were *The Sky People* (1960), *Men Among Martians* (1962), *Forgotten Heritage* (1964), *The Flying Saucer Story* (1966), *Operation Earth* (1969), *The Eternal Subject* (1973) and *Secret of The Ages* (1974). He also edited the *Flying Saucer Review*, helped to set up the International UFO Observer Corps and was founder-president of Contact, an international UFO group.

His greatest disappointment, perhaps, was never to have had a close encounter of his own, despite going to some lengths to do so. The nearest he got to one was when he spotted an "eerie white light" zig-zagging across the night sky over South Kensington. But although he scrambled on top of the kitchen sink to improve his view, the "saucer" had vanished behind cloud seconds before.

Lord Clancarty, who died in a Sussex nursing home, is survived by his fourth wife, May, formerly the widow of a commander in the Royal Navy, whom he married in 1976. The title passes to his nephew, Nicholas Le Poer Trench who becomes the 9th Earl.

CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN

Christian Anfinsen, American biochemist and Nobel Prizewinner, died in Randallstown, Maryland, on May 15. He was born in Monaca, Pennsylvania, in 1916.

CHRISTIAN Anfinsen was one of a group of biochemists who over a period of 20 years were able to work out both the sequence and the structure of important biological molecules. The particular achievement for which he shared the 1972 Nobel Prize for Chemistry was the discovery of the sequence of the 128 amino acids that make up the enzyme ribonuclease. He went on to investigate how this structure folds in order to form the complex three-dimensional shape that determines the enzyme's properties.

Anfinsen was educated at Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania before taking up a research fellowship at the Carlsberg Laboratory in Copenhagen in 1939. There he was greatly influenced by Kaj-Ulrik Linderstrom-Lang, who decided that protein structure, like Gaul, was divided into three parts.

First there was the primary structure, the amino acid sequence. The secondary structure is determined by the way

in which these sequences form helices and pleated sheets, and the final tertiary structure by a further process of folding to create the complex shapes later elucidated by X-ray crystallography.

In 1943 he joined Harvard University and in 1950 went to the National Institutes of Health where he headed vari-

ous laboratories over the next 30 years. After his retirement from NIH he joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore in 1982.

At the time when Frederick Sanger in England was working out the primary structure of insulin, Anfinsen was using chemical and chromatographic techniques to perform the



same task for ribonuclease. Today such sequences are easily found, but in the 1950s it required a *tour de force* of chemical analysis, culminating in the sequence for which Anfinsen shared the 1972 Nobel Prize with Stanford Moore and William Stein of Rockefeller University in New York.

By 1955 Anfinsen had turned to the secondary and tertiary structures. "He was a true pioneer in the field of protein structure and protein folding," said Daniel Nathans of Johns Hopkins. "His work is a prototype for the many studies that have followed."

More recently, Anfinsen had been studying the extremophiles, bacteria that flourish in the hot and inhospitable conditions found in vents where the tectonic plates join in the ocean floors. He believed that these bacteria, capable of surviving at very high temperatures, might be useful in disposing of toxic materials such as chemical weapons.

Anfinsen often joined in campaigns against the misuse of science, particularly biological weapons. Among his many interests was the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, on whose board of governors he had served since 1962. He leaves a widow, two daughters, and a son.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Stephen Northfield, Vicar, Ramsey w Little Oakley and Walsworth: to be Vicar, Hatfield Peverel w Utting (Chelmsford).
The Rev David Pollard, Rector, Roche and Withiel (Truro): to be Assistant Curate (Minister in Charge), the Cornwall District of Christ Church, Parkwood (Canterbury).
The Rev Michael Porter, Priest-in-charge, South Hornchurch (Chelmsford): to be Vicar, Christ Church, Ankerly (Rochester).
The Rev Trevor Reiss, Vicar, Lowestoft St Margaret Team Ministry, and Chaplain, Loughland Hospital: to be Vicar, St Mary Magdalene, Goringham (Norwich).
The Rev David Robinson, Vicar, Sid Valley Team Ministry: to be Rector, Bradninch and Clyst Hydon (Exeter).
The Rev John Root, Vicar, St James, Alport: to be also Area Dean of Brent (London).
The Rev Duncan Ross, Vicar, St Mary of Eton, Hackney Wick: to be Priest-in-charge, St Paul, Bow Common (London).
The Rev Eric Russell, Vicar, St

Paul and St Silas, Loxells: to be Priest-in-charge, St Withun, Barston and Associate Minister, St John, Knowle (Birmingham).
The Rev John Russell, Vicar, The Ascension, Hall Green: to be special responsibility in Oldbury and Langley (Birmingham).
The Rev Peter Thackray: to be Honorary Assistant Curate, Brabourne and Smeeth (Canterbury).

The Rev John Tipping, Priest-in-charge, Marsham w Hinxhill and Priest-in-charge, Sevington: to be also Priest-in-charge, Brabourne and Smeeth (Canterbury).
The Rev Peter Vannozzi, Vicar, St Edmund the King, Northwood Hills: to be also Area Dean of Harrow (London).
The Rev Dr. Ian Wallis, Chaplain of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge: to be Priest-in-charge, St Michael and All Angels, Houghton-le-Spring (Durham).

The Rev Roger Williams, Vicar, St Jude and St Paul, Mildmay Grove (London): to be Priest-in-charge, Charles w St Matthias, Plymouth (Exeter).
The Rev Myra Wing: to be Honorary Assistant Curate, Appledore w Brookland and Fairfield and Brereton w Snargate and Kenardington: and to the parish of Stone in Oxney (Canterbury).
The Rev Michael Wray, Assistant Curate, Headington Quarry (Oxford): to be Assistant Curate, Kennington (Canterbury).

The Rev Nicholas Wynter-Jones, Vicar, Great Clacton parish church (Chelmsford): to be Vicar, Christ Church, Beckenham (Rochester).
Resignations and retirements
The Rev Christopher Allen, Vicar, St Bernard, Hamstead (Birmingham): resigned as from April 7.

The Rev Stephen Bond, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mark, Washwood Heath (Birmingham): to resign as from May 31.

The Rev Stephen Jones: to resign as Priest-in-charge, St Paul, Harold Hill (Chelmsford) as from May 24. He will remain Vicar, St George, Harold Hill w St Thomas. The Rev Robert McLean-Reid, Vicar, The Ascension, Eastington Colliery (Durham): to retire on ground of ill-health from June 30.

The Rev Robin Paxon, Team Vicar, Dovercourt and Parkington Team Ministry (Chelmsford): to retire as from July 31.
The Rev Donald Percy, Vicar, South Moor, Stanley (Durham): to resign as from June 30.

The Rev Canon Jonathan Russell, Rector, Selling w Throby and Sheldwich w Badmeston and Leaveland, who is to be Priest-in-charge, Elham w Denon and Wootton: to resign as Rural Dean of Ospringe (Canterbury) as from June 30.

The Rev David Rye, Rector, Barnham Broom Team Ministry, and Priest-in-charge, Reymoreston, Cranworth w Letton and Southburgh, Whitnburgh w Westfield (Norwich): to retire as from July 13.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST

JUBILEE PERFORMANCE AT DRURY LANE

Yesterday afternoon at Drury Lane, in the presence of their Majesties, Miss Marie Tempest celebrated — and all that is most distinguished in her profession celebrated with her — the fiftieth anniversary of what may now be called her accession to the stage. After a ballet danced by Mr Harold Turner and Mme Markova beyond all expectations of a charity matinee, and a few songs that found Mr George Robey in correspondingly good form, the curtain rose on the second act of *The Marriage of King*, dressed a little surprisingly in the costume of today.

A preliminary glance at the programme having revealed that among those who were later to "walk on" were the light and leading of the stage, it was of some interest to observe who had been chosen for the special honour of playing with Miss Tempest in her selected scenes. Hovering over the dinner table at which King was afterwards to entertain her husband, were Mr Louis Godrich as the man-servant and Miss Yvonne Arnaud as the French maid. Next came Mr Graham Browne as the solicitor of fantastic devices, an adroit performance, neat and benign, and soon afterwards the husband himself Mr Frank

ON THIS DAY

May 29, 1935

This celebration of Dame Marie Tempest's 50 years on the stage brought together a wide variety of theatrical talents, among them Alicia Markova, Evelyn Laye and Robert Donat

Allenby, who, even beneath the handicap of a very modern tailor, can turn a sentimental soliloquy to perfection. So they were all set to play their little game when the Peruvian widow, evidently by origin a whirlwind in petticoats, burst in upon them. It is not easy to be that kind of whirlwind without the assistance of that kind of petticoat, but Miss Margaret Rawlings, with excellent resources, invented a whirlwind of her own as amusing and as well fitted for Kitty to ride. Miss Tempest rode it beautifully, perfect mistress of herself, the stage, the little song

she sang, and Sir Reginald Belsize. St. Who else can flit while handing the bread or, after 50 years, still polish off all the widows in Peru with a flick of her eyelashes?

Mr John McCormack, Miss Evelyn Laye, and Miss Mary Ellis sang, and Miss Tempest, in the third act of *Little Catherine*, showed that she could be an old Empress as well as a young one. Mr Allan Ayresworth, Mr Massey, Mr Donat and Mr Robert Harris represented the tribune of the senior and junior stage to the old monarch.

Upon which followed *The Players' Masque for Marie Tempest*, written by Mr John Drinkwater and produced by Mr Tyrone Guthrie. With Mr John Gielgud to lead it, to introduce the living players who appeared in the semblance of players now gone, and to speak Mr Drinkwater's verses, this masque was a model of what such things should be — when serious, brief and touching when gay, full of spontaneity and charm. It ended in a ballroom scene, crowded with all the brilliance of the theatre — a dazzling company that divided when Miss Tempest was carried in on a golden throne. She made a little speech, thanking the players, and received the deeds that established in St George's Hospital a Marie Tempest Wing to be used by members of her own profession.

Anchor role catches Hignell out of position

Jack Rowell is not the only team boss with problems on his hands in South Africa. Bob Burrows, executive producer of ITV Sport, must be less than delighted with the stuttering start his all-star team has made to the rugby World Cup.

Some of the problems, of course, are beyond his control. I lost count of the number of times live action from England's unhappy encounter with Argentina was missed because the director employed by the South African host broadcaster was either showing a replay or, worse still, a shot of the crowd. Breakaway Argentine interceptions, disputed tries, even Mike Catt's hurriedly improvised restart — all were missed.

The one consolation is that the replays, in common with

the pictures and sound, are of a high quality. But there is a time for a revealing replay and when there is live action in progress is not one of them.

Other problems, however, are within Burrows's control. A number of his key personnel appear to be suffering from playing out of position. The most uncomfortable is Alastair Hignell, who, although slowly recovering from a nightmare start on Thursday, still does not look as if he is anchoring the biggest sporting event of the year.

Presenting is a quite different skill from commentating, the latter being an area where there is no disputing the former England full back's talent. It is the one job where a sportsman's wealth of experience on the field is of no use.



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

What it requires is experience on camera, calmly addressing the watching world while a frantic shouts instructions into your ear-piece. It also needs a little more showmanship than Hignell can muster, especially to sell some of the one-sided encounters of the early rounds. Still, as the tournament proceeds, that job should become easier.

Hignell can take comfort in the fact that Mark Austin, ITN's experienced Africa correspondent, looks just as un-

comfortable when he takes the presenter's chair, as he did for Ireland's peak-time battle with New Zealand. Both men appear bedeviled by a production team obsessed with technical wizardry.

Half-time in a rugby match is short enough for a channel that needs to catch up with commercials, without trying to take in a live link to some far-off training camp. Hignell's link to the Irish hotel during half-time in Wales versus Japan was almost surreal. It was

supposed to be with the Irish forward, Gary Halpin. It wasn't and whoever was sitting in Halpin's chair looked almost as startled as Hignell.

In the commentary box, however, things are going far better. John Taylor may have none of the engaging eccentricities of Bill McLaren, but he is still a class act. And Chris Rea is clearly relishing getting behind the microphone again. Indeed, given his experience of presenting *Rugby Special*, perhaps he will be seen in front of camera before the tournament is out.

The summarisers are also an enjoyably familiar bunch: the loquacious Gareth Edwards; Steve Smith, who sounds more like Kevin Keegan than ever; and the outspoken Clive Norling, who sounds more like a retired

prop forward than an international referee. One thing puzzles me, though — why are all Hignell's studio guests apparently having to sit on Gareth Chilcott's knee?

ITV has spent more than £8 million on its coverage. Eurosport considerably less. But Mike Wedderburn, the recently-retired Harlequins and Wasps winger, is bringing a distinctively different voice to the satellite channel's coverage, especially when joined by the irrepressible Micky Skinner as he was for England against Argentina.

Labouring under the handicap of an inferior sound link, the pair more than make up for their lack of clarity with their clubhouse clowning. Goodness knows what Bill McLaren would make of it — but it's fun.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Edinburgh success paves way to Paris

LARISA NEILAND and Meredith McGrath put the finishing touches to their preparations for the French Open tennis championships on Saturday by winning the World Cup doubles in Edinburgh (Alix Ramsay writes). The No 1 seeds from, respectively, Latvia and the United States, they did as the form book suggested by beating the second-ranked team of Rennae Stubbs, of Australia, and Manon Bollegraf, of Holland, 6-2, 7-6, although, after easily taking the first set in 23 minutes, they had to resist a determined recovery before securing victory.

Afterwards, McGrath admitted: "There was never a time when all four of us were playing at our best. In fact, it's a tough week to hold this event, right before the French. I don't know how that will affect the long-term future of it."

Fox badly injured

MOTOR RACING: The start of the Indianapolis 500 on Sunday was marred by a multi-car accident, as a result of Stan Fox's car appearing to lose control at the first turn and veering into the outside wall. The front of Fox's car was sheered off by the force of the impact and by a collision with Eddie Cheever. Huge chunks of debris and tyres damaged several other cars.

Fox, apparently unconscious once the debris had settled, was clearly visible through the front of what remained of the central tub of his car. He was surrounded by rescue crews who cut him out of the remains of the car and was subsequently taken to hospital with head injuries.

Edberg leads Cup win

TENNIS: Stefan Edberg, right, led Sweden to their third World Team Cup title with a 2-1 win over Croatia in Düsseldorf yesterday. Edberg claimed his fourth successive singles victory, beating Sasa Hirszon 6-4, 6-4 before teaming up with Jonas Bjorkman to claim a 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 doubles triumph over Goran Ivanisevic and Hirszon. He will now play in the French Open.



Arbi retains world title

BADMINTON: Heryanto Arbi, of Indonesia, surprisingly beaten in the All-England final two months ago, retained his world singles title with a brilliant display to beat Park Sung-Woo, of South Korea, 15-11, 15-8 in Lausanne, Switzerland, yesterday. Ye Zhaoying, of China, recaptured the women's singles title on Saturday with an 11-6, 11-0 win over her compatriot Han Jingna.

McQuaid keeps grip

CYCLING: Ireland's riders resisted the combined challenge of nine nations to win the FBD Milk Race, the country's major tour, for the 35th time in its 43-year history when Paul McQuaid, of the national team, took overall victory yesterday in the 800-mile race. McQuaid, who went into the lead at the end of Thursday's stage, won by a minute ahead of Dave Williams (Liverpool), the British champion.

Thompson heads grid

MOTOR RACING: James Thompson claimed pole position for the ninth round of the Auto Trader British touring car championship yesterday. The 21-year-old Vauxhall driver, who won his place at the head of the field for the two races at Oulton Park in Cheshire despite a 120mph accident 36 hours earlier, will be joined on the front of the grid by the championship leader, Rickard Rydell, of Sweden.

Allcock's team beaten

BOWLS: A heavy 29-10 defeat for the rink skipped by Tony Allcock, right, the world outdoor singles champion, gave the England selectors something to think about before the international series in Llanelli in July. The British champions were beaten 118-112 by a clutch of enthusiastic challengers in the national trials at New Lount, Leicestershire, yesterday.



Strong wind for Scottish

YACHTING: Three yachts were dismasted yesterday at the Rover Scottish Series regatta at Tarbet, Loch Fyne, but the remainder of the 1,500 competitors crewing 285 yachts survived winds up to 30 knots and driving rain to complete the middle distance race of the five-day series now at its halfway stage. In Class 0 all eyes look to Stephen Aird and his Regatta Team Scotland racing MacLeod's Isle of Skye.

Claymores miss out

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The Scottish Claymores lost another close World League of American Football match on Saturday, this time 16-13 to the Barcelona Dragons, when victory seemed to be in their grasp. The winning points came from Scott Szerezy, who kicked a 49-yard field goal with 64 seconds remaining. It was their seventh loss in eight games and this was the fifth loss by a touchdown or less.

Kulcsar flourishes

FENCING: Krisztina Kulcsar, of Hungary, won the Charles Martel Trophy in the Poirier round of the men's epee World Cup event yesterday when he pushed Alexander Beketov, of Russia, 15-14 into second place in an exciting final. The Olympic champion, Eric Srecki, of France, finished a disappointing fifth after a lacklustre quarter-final with Mikhail Tichko, of Ukraine.

Brave Wales praised

LACROSSE: Wales were only 2-1 behind at half-time in their first official international against the United States in New Jersey at the weekend. The world champions moved up a gear after the interval to win 11-3 but the Welsh coach, Judy Nairn, rated it their best international performance. She singled out Julie-Anne Spiers, Philippa Carter and the goalkeeper, Karen Owen, for particular praise.

Kent targets top prize

SHOOTING: The English XX Club rifle championship ended its second day at Bisley yesterday with two of England's leading marksmen and John Howard Davies, the captain of the Welsh XX, ready for a close match at 900 and 1,000 yards for the Grand Aggregate today. Paul Kent of Surrey, headed the aggregate over the first two days with 324.43 points, ahead of John Underwood and Davies.

Welshman's 65 earns share of lead going into final day at Wentworth

Moulnd masters wind to set up chance of victory

By MEL WEBB

NOBODY takes liberties with the West course at Wentworth on the most peaceful of days. When it is visited by the wind it can destroy scores, batter reputations and raise blood pressure to danger levels. That is the way it was for the third round of the Volvo PGA Championship yesterday; it was not an easy day to be playing golf.

The course is always a joy to behold, no matter what the time of year, and important ingredients in making it so pleasing to the eye are the trees that line its fairways and surround its greens.

But their beauty masks a menace that is never far below the surface. When it blows, the green aisles of this cathedral of golf become rocky tracks to nowhere. No wonder they call it the Burma Road.

More than a few fell by the wayside — Darren Clarke, the talented young Irishman, had a miserable 82. Frank Nobilo, the overnight leader, fell to a humbling 77. Only a handful coped with the manifold perils that awaited them, and none did better than Mark Moulnd, who began on one under par and finished on eight under after a startling 65, easily the best round of the day.

Moulnd, who had an eagle, six birdies and a solitary bogey, was once a man who believed in keeping the cup of life filled to overflowing. But that is a thing of the past for the Welshman. "It's no secret that I enjoyed myself, staying up and having a laugh with the boys," he said. "Now if I'm in bed later than ten o'clock, it's a late night."

Bernhard Langer, meanwhile, settled for more modest gains, but the 68 he finished

with was enough to give him a share of the lead with Moulnd on 208, eight under par. They lead Andrew Sherborne and Per-Ulrik Johansson by a shot with José María Cañizares and the daunting figure of Nick Faldo one further back.

Already in this tournament, Langer has broken Neil Coles's record of successive cuts made. Today he might take this championship for the third time. His round was flawless until he came to the last, and even that got off to a good start. He hit a perfect

THIRD ROUND

GB and Ireland stand:
208: M Moulnd 72, 71, 65, 8 Langer (Ger) 67, 73, 68, 208; P-J Johansson (Swe) 71, 69, 69, A Sherborne 68, 69, 72, 210; J M Cañizares (Esp) 69, 70, 71, N Faldo 67, 72, 71, 211; C Montgomerie 70, 72, 69, J Parnell (Swe) 68, 73, 70, T Lever (Irl) 72, 68, 71, 212; M James 73, 72, 67, 5 discusions (Irl) 72, 68, 71, M Beszczersky (Irl) 70, 71, 71, P Senior (Aus) 68, 73, 73, S Shuter (Ger) 69, 69, 74, P Walton 70, 68, 74, G Orr 70, 67, 75, 213; R Sova 72, 71, 70, M McIlvan 70, M A Jiménez (Esp) 73, 69, 71, M Campbell (NZ) 69, 72, 71, G Brand 73, 68, 71, M O'Connell (Irl) 69, 72, 72, R Coenen (SA) 72, 67, 74, P Nobilo (NZ) 68, 68, 77

drive, tried to draw his second shot with a three-wood against the wind, but succeeded only in blocking it right into a tree and thence into a rhododendron bush.

He had only a two-foot backswing, he could not even see his ball, but he made enough contact to send it ten yards sideways and out of trouble. His wedge, from no more than 40 yards, drew to a halt seven feet short, and he missed the par putt.

"It was a great round until

then," he said. "I had 220 yards to the front of the green, and it should have been no problem. You could put me in that spot ten times, and I'd probably birdie six of them. Today it was not meant to be, but you get good breaks and bad breaks in this game. I'm not complaining." Neither should he: his form in this tournament has been menacingly good, and he will take a deal of beating today.

He birdied the first from eight feet after hooking his four-iron second shot in against the wind. He picked up another shot on the next, holing out from 16 feet for a two. A ten-foot putt on the 7th helped him to the turn in 32, and he made further gains on the 11th from five feet and the 17th from six feet.

When Colin Montgomerie bogeyed three of the first six holes, he was one over par and out of the running. But yet again he proved his battling qualities to finish only three shots off the lead after a 69.

It seemed that recent putting problems were confining when he three-putted the 3rd and 6th and missed an eight-foot par putt on the 5th. Then, all of a sudden, a putt dropped, a 20-footer on the 7th. "It was the longest one I've made for two months," he said. Thereafter, to demonstrate that the game within a game that is putting is largely a simple matter of confidence, he proceeded to hole from all over the place.

That he and Faldo are within striking distance will give the leaders no comfort as they walk onto the first tee today. On the other hand, they know that when Langer gets his teeth into a tournament, he is the very devil to shake off.



Langer drives on his way to a 68 and a share of the lead at Wentworth yesterday

Nicholas on course for first victory on US tour

ALISON NICHOLAS, of England, picked up four birdies in the last nine holes of her six-under 66 to take a two-shot lead over Pat Bradley in the LPGA Corning Classic golf tournament on Saturday.

Nicholas moved ahead of Bradley with a 20-foot downhill putt for a birdie at the 14th. In all she had seven birdies after a bogey at the first, and was on 203 after three rounds. Bradley, who led at the halfway mark, shot a two-under-par 70 for 205.

Nicholas has never won on the US LPGA Tour, where she made her debut in October 1989. Her best finish was runner-up in this tournament in 1993, when she lost on the first play-off hole to Kelly Robbins.

On Saturday she earned a share of the lead with a birdie at the par-four sixth, where Bradley bogeyed to drop to eight-under.

Nicholas took a one-shot lead at the 14th, made an eight-footer for a birdie at the 15th and then sank a 12-footer at the 18th to go 13 under. She nearly had a hole-in-one on the 191-yard 3rd, where her six-iron rolled across the green and hit the flagstick.

Rosie Jones, who shared the lead briefly at nine under, bogeyed two of her last three for a 70 and was tied for third with Beth Daniel and Barb Mucha on 208.

Hall takes title with well-timed birdie run

JULIE HALL timed a late charge to perfection to retain the English women's amateur title at Ipswich on Saturday. Hall had to call on all her expertise and local knowledge of the course where she is an honorary member to overcome Elaine Ratcliffe of Stirling University, 2 and 1.

Hall, 28, raced into a three-hole lead at the 8th with a glorious second shot, which left her with a birdie putt from four feet. She had taken the initiative at the short 3rd with a birdie to go one up and made an eagle at the par-five 7th by holing from 8ft.

However, Ratcliffe wiped out the three-hole advantage in a fightback helped by Hall taking three putts at the 9th and 11th. Ratcliffe drew level with a birdie at the 12th.

The next three holes were halved, before Hall scored a birdie at the 16th to go one up again. Ratcliffe, 22, using a three-wood from the tee, was 50 yards short after two shots at the par-five 17th where Hall was on in two. Ratcliffe lipped the hole with her fourth shot only to miss the putt back. Hall, having got to five feet in three conceded the hole and the match.

There was some good news for Ratcliffe after the match, though. She learnt of her selection for England's European championships team in Italy next month.

Nemeth sees room for improvement

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THE most significant basketball event to be staged in England, the European championship qualifying round, ended satisfactorily but not joyously for the hosts yesterday. Already assured of qualification for the semi-final round, which starts later this year, after coming from 10-1 down to beat Denmark 89-70 on Saturday, England failed to complete a clean sweep and lost 88-71 to Poland, the only other previously unbeaten nation.

The outcome of that final match in group A, at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, provided a timely reminder to the England coach, Laszlo Nemeth, that there is still much work to be done if his squad is to compete with the best on the Continent.

Whether or not the players were suffering from hangovers after celebrating their qualification the previous night, it probably made little difference.

Nemeth had plumped for almost his tallest squad, omitting the 6ft 11in Karl Brown at the last minute in favour of the 6ft 9in Trevor Gordon, but although he was subsequently to lose the 6ft 10in John Amaechi, who flew back to Penn State University after the 84-74 defeat of Georgia on Friday, Nemeth knew that was no excuse.

Amaechi had asked to return, not wishing to further jeopardise his chances of

being drafted by a club in the National Basketball Association with any more disappointing contributions. "I did not beg him to stay," Nemeth said, knowing that he could happily dispense with the services of a player whose three games had yielded only 21 points.

Spencer Dunkley was the find of the tournament for England. Denmark had attempted to extend their hopes of qualification by subduing the flamboyant 6ft 9in forward, and when the Poles followed suit, the play worked for them to better avail. Dunkley was enmeshed in a tight man-for-man defence, his chances of scoring from close quarters limited for so long that by the time he

managed to break free with any frequency, Poland were romping ahead.

At half-time their lead was an overwhelming 51-33. Nemeth had used up both his time-outs in a five-minute period midway through the half but it was after the second one that his team's prospects improved ever so slightly.

The introduction Roger Huggins helped, and the impressive Kurt Samuels threatened to whittle down Poland's advantage entirely on his own from long range. The trouble was that England were ultimately forced to take on the Poles at close quarters, where there was no disputing that the 6ft 11in Adam Wojcik and the 6ft 9in Tomasz Jankowski were vastly superior.

Selectors' embarrassment put on hold

By CRAIG LORD

THE blushes of the wise men who worship at the altar of early Great Britain team trials may have been spared at the weekend, but red-face day may yet dawn for selectors before the summer is out judging by performances at the British Grand Prix final in Cardiff.

Take Mike Watkins, the Torfaen member who broke the 15-year-old Welsh record at 200 metres butterfly yesterday, and Jaime King. Neither quite matched the embarrassing efforts of Samantha Greenep in Athens two weeks ago, but it is not beyond the

bounds of reason that they will emulate the tragedy of her situation before the European championships in Vienna in August.

Greenep, of Ferndown Otters, will stay at home this summer while others compete at the European championships, in spite of clocking the fastest 100 metres butterfly time by a Briton this year at the Akropolis Meeting. The British team for the Europeans was set in stone a month ago and there is no scope for additions to be made, according to a selection policy that cannot now be changed.

King, at 15 the baby of the British Olympic team in Barcelona almost three summers ago, yesterday could not surpass the splendid trials time of Marie Hardiman in the 100 metres breaststroke, but her lonely and unpressured 1min 12.99sec after the disappointment of her failure at the trials, courtesy of a winter illness, suggests that her best is yet to come this season.

King was not an obvious Olympian in the spring of 1992, but by the time of the Olympic trials in the summer she had come on in leaps and bounds.

She might have hoped for the same pattern this year after suffering a mystery virus that caused her to shed a stone

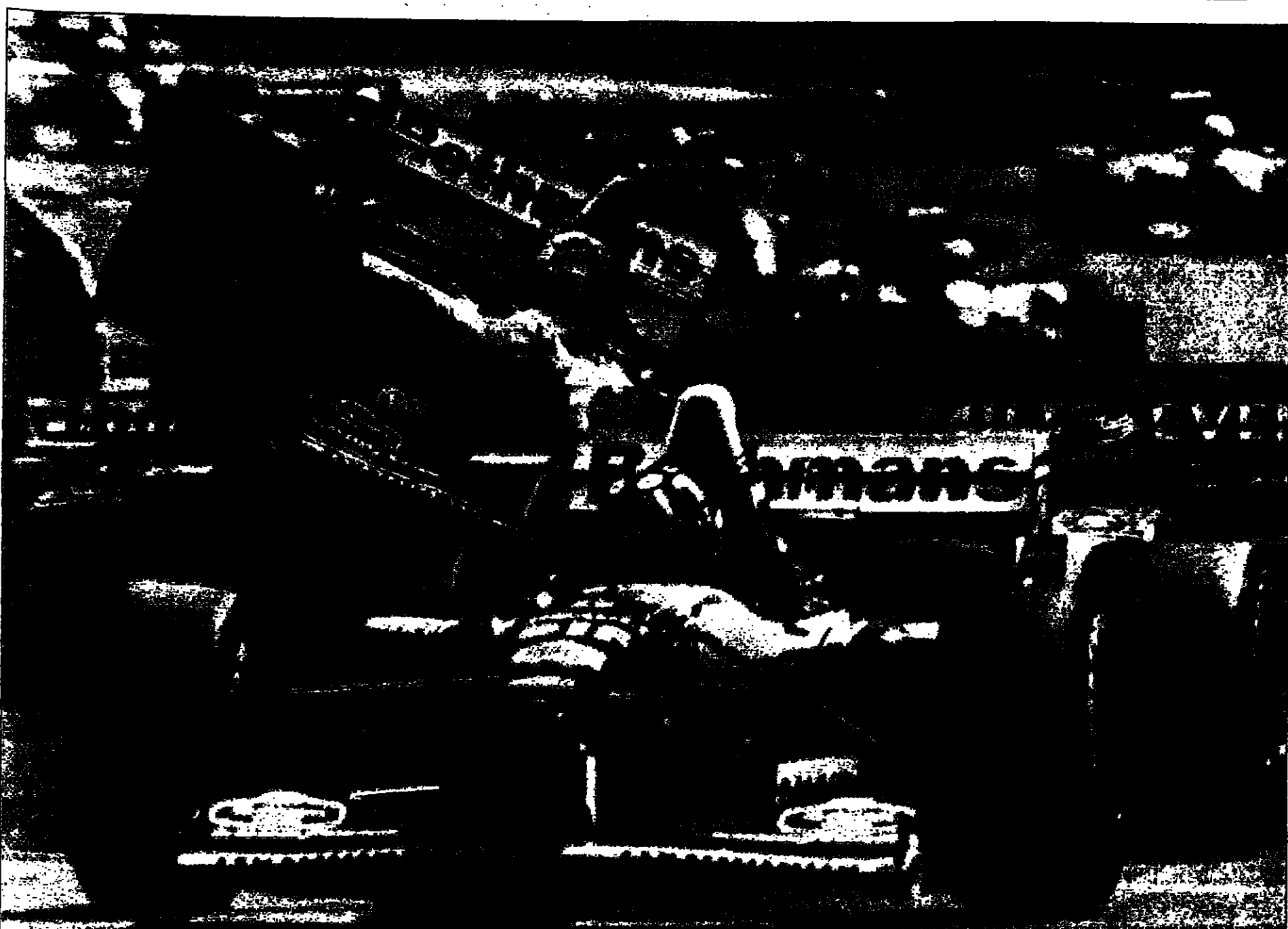
and kept her out of the water for several critical weeks. Early trials cut her season short; had this been 1992, King would not have made the Olympic team.

Watkins's time of 2min 02.13sec marked a personal improvement of almost a second and was 0.13sec inside Paul Morris's 1980 standard, set at the Moscow Olympic Games. Few would doubt that the selection time of 2mins 00.65sec for the European championships, and the winning trials time of 2min 01.00sec, are not now within the Welshman's reach.

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هكذا من الأصل

Change in pit-stop strategy ends Briton's hopes in Monaco Grand Prix



Coulthard's Williams-Renault takes to the air as Hill leads the field at the start of the Monaco Grand Prix yesterday. The collision meant that the race had to be restarted

Hill's error fuels Schumacher's hopes

FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN MONACO

A BAND was belting out old Beatles numbers from Graham Hill's heyday at La Rascasse, and the owners of Rosie's Bar, where the driver they called the King of Monaco used to drink, had put up pictures of his son in anticipation of a sixth Formula One motor racing triumph in Monte Carlo for the family. It felt like a victory party all weekend.

Even Benetton and Michael Schumacher had been having a series of late nights because of the feeling that this was Damon Hill's year to win in the principality. They worked into the early hours each day of the weekend, desperately trying to recapture the advantage they had established in Barcelona a fortnight ago, frustrated by Hill's brilliance and perseverance at every turn.

Hill drove a devastating qualifying lap to claim pole position on Saturday, and survived a first-lap pile-up and subsequent restart to hold his lead into the early stages of the Monaco Grand Prix yesterday. Up to 24 laps into the race, it seemed that all was set fair, but then it fell apart for the Englishman.

Like many of the best parties here, it was ruined by an expensive gamble. Hill chose to make two refuelling stops to Schumacher's one, and it proved the decisive error. He kept ahead of the German at the start, happy with his narrow lead because he did not realise the world champion was driving with a heavier fuel load.

Hill was horror-struck when he made his first pit stop and Schumacher tore away from him, and Hill never looked like catching him. Indeed, if Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, had not crashed, Hill would probably have had to settle for third place.

Schumacher finished more than 34 seconds ahead of Hill, whose race was creased with disappointment as Prince Rainier presented Schumacher with the trophy Hill had coveted. Those who had been preparing themselves for a feast of nostalgia, an excuse to glory again in the memory of Graham Hill's exploits here, went home disappointed, and left the celebrations to the hordes of Germans camped out on the hillside beneath the old town.

"We got our strategy horribly wrong. I'm afraid," Hill

said. "I'm pretty chuffed off. It has happened before and it is making it too easy for Michael. Last night we had decided we would do one stop, but after the warm-up this morning, we changed our minds and went for two."

"It is a long and hard race here anyway, and when you cannot make any impression on a guy who has got more fuel on board than you have, then it seems even longer. I was pretty disillusioned when I realised Michael was only doing one stop because I knew I had got a hard job on then. "But the championship is still in its early stages and I am within striking distance of Michael. There are some

tracks coming up which I think should favour Williams. So although I am bitterly disappointed today, I am pleased to be in touch."

The result marked another spectacular reversal of fortune for Benetton and their leading driver, another tribute to their tenacity and refusal to be downhearted in the face of apparent superiority by the Williams-Renault. Time and again, they seem to outwit Williams strategically, and Hill promised grimly that he would be seeking to address the problem.

The race was delayed for half an hour after David Coulthard, Hill's team-mate, was sandwiched between the

two Ferraris going into the first corner. Their collision blocked the track, and the race had to be restarted.

Schumacher said that he guessed Hill would make two stops and tried to stay as close to him as possible in the early stages, pushing harder and harder as Hill eked out a narrow lead. Fortune favoured the German when backmarkers held up Hill and wiped out even that slender advantage.

Schumacher's solitary pit stop, on the 36th lap, went without a hitch. By then, Coulthard had already been forced to retire with a broken gearbox. Once Alesi, who collided with Martin Brundle's spinning Ligier Mugen-Honda on the 42nd lap when he was only 11 seconds behind, had been forced to retire, the German was never threatened again. It was his second successive win on the street circuit.

"It is special for anyone to win here," Schumacher said, "but it makes it even better to win in the way we have done. We have had to work very hard all over the weekend, but it has paid off and it is a tribute to the team. We calculated what would be the best pit-stop strategy and it worked

for us. Still, I was surprised that the margin of victory was so big."

"After our disastrous start to the season, I am very pleased that the car's performance is improving. We have more modifications to come, so things are looking good."

Schumacher's win leaves him five points clear of Hill at the head of the drivers' championship with five races gone. Gerhard Berger is in third place after his third consecutive podium finish behind Hill yesterday. Benetton are now four points clear of Williams at the head of the constructors' table, and Johnny Herbert's fourth place yesterday was another encouraging result as his season begins to take off.

Mark Blundell's fifth place, in the McLaren-Mercedes that proved such a trial for Nigel Mansell, should improve his chances of retaining the drive beyond the next grand prix, in Canada in two weeks.

Guildford repeat league win to clinch cup victory

Guildford 4
Teddington 1

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

GUILDFORD regained the Hockey Association Cup after 17 years with an exciting win over Teddington, the holders, in the final at Canterbury yesterday. Guildford defeated Teddington 4-1 in the National League last March, but Teddington went on to win the title. The pattern of both matches was the same with Teddington allowing chances to slip away and Guildford seizing them.

Guildford built their success on their powers of acceleration but two men laid the foundations to victory — Friday, with his splendid goalkeeping, and Jennings, with two late goals from short corners which finally silenced Teddington.

In the early minutes when Teddington forced two short corners, Friday rescued Guildford with brilliant saves from Billson and McGuire. Teddington maintained the pressure and failed to capitalise on a good chance set up in the nineteenth minute by Laslett when Sully miscued.

Before another minute had elapsed Guildford went ahead with a well-taken goal by Markham from a pass by Hall who increased the lead in the 26th minute after Cartnell had made the running on the right wing.

Almost on half-time, Billson scored on the follow-up from one of Teddington's four short corners. Cartnell having retired to the sidelines to have a hand injury dressed.

Teddington began the second half with McGuire leading the attack and the promise of an equaliser loomed large but, again, a chance was lost when Laslett cut through on his own and put a shot wide of the far post in the 51st minute.

Teddington's fortunes faded in the 58th minute when McGuire was suspended for a questionable tackle on Jennings who scored Guildford's third goal from a short corner three minutes later.

Friday made another good save from a short corner as Teddington doubled their efforts but Jennings was on target again to seal victory for Guildford who won the trophy in 1978. It was not a happy day for Teddington who lost one of their best forwards, Gibbins, who limped off in the early minutes and was replaced by D'Mello.

Guildford: K. Friday, S. Manton, T. Robertson, J. Barker, J. Jennings, H. Ferguson, G. Cartnell, M. Morris, D. Hall, R. Ireland, R. Hetherington. Subs used: N. Powell, C. Burnell.

Teddington: G. Meredith, P. Way, P. McGuire, J. Wells, A. Colclough, R. Irvine, J. Laslett, J. Moore, P. Gibbins, S. Nielsen, A. Elliott. Subs used: N. D'Welle, M. Sully. Referee: G. Little and K. Roper (Northern Counties).

Unfit Thorp struggles to become new counties champion

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

JUST as there are no easy matches in football's Premiership, there are no easy titles in British women's hurdling. Even with Sally Gunnell and Jacqui Aggepong absent, Angela Thorp had to defeat two European junior champions to win the United Kingdom inter-counties women's 100 metres hurdles at Bedford yesterday.

Thorp thus holds the distinction of being the last inter-area title winner, having won last year and the first inter-counties champion of her event. Although these championships are the 55th for men, they are the first for women, who had competed previously under area rather than county banners.

After nine years at Corby as a one-day fixture, the inter-counties has a new home and a two-day schedule. Bedford Borough Council is putting in £21,000 over three years in addition to providing facilities and groundstaff.

The labour required to set out ten flights of hurdles was well rewarded as Thorp, Diane Allahgreen, the runner-up, and Kerl Maddox, who was third, each beat 13.70sec, encouraging form for early season and in crosswinds. Thorp recorded 13.62sec, Allahgreen, the present European junior champion, 13.66sec, and Maddox, her predecessor, 13.69sec.

Thorp, aged 22, ran hardily at all during the second half of last year after suffering glandular fever and rubella, just after running a personal best of 13.32sec which set her sights on the Commonwealth Games. She has worked back but did not think she would be strong enough. "I am unfit, very unfit," Thorp said. When fitness comes she expects to run close to 13 seconds or under it. Gunnell's British record is 12.82sec.

Linford Christie did not appear to defend his 100 metres title and Owusu Dako took over his title with a victory in 10.54sec. The title at least belongs to the Christie school. Dako has joined Christie's training squad under Ron Roddan in London.

Neil Winter, the Commonwealth Games pole-vault champion, was dismissed as championship record-holder, but for only ten minutes. Paul Williamson added five centimetres to Winter's 1993 record of 5.30m, but the Welshman then responded to win and set a new record with 5.40m.

Denmark wins, page 29
Results, page 33

Fogarty turns up Superbike heat

Andrew Longmore visits Donington Park to witness the world champion extend his lead this season with a memorable double

racers and his communion with them is every bit as personal. He does not have to say anything fancy to excite admiration, he just has to race which he does with an intensity so complete even his team manager looks a trifle cowed. "A fighter-rider," Ferrari calls his man: someone who rides flat out every lap, be it in practice, qualifying or race.

"With Carl, the clock tells

you everything you need to know about the state of the bike. He goes out on the track and opens the gas. He makes it look so easy, yet see him close up at a corner and his body is very nervous, like a horse, and the changes of balance are very quick." And he flicks the palm of his hand over one way then the other to illustrate the point.

Ferrari recalls a race at

Misano last season, in which Fogarty finished fifth with a broken hand. "That revealed more about Carl's soul than any number of words. I know how painful that must have been and yet he was as quick as he was before."

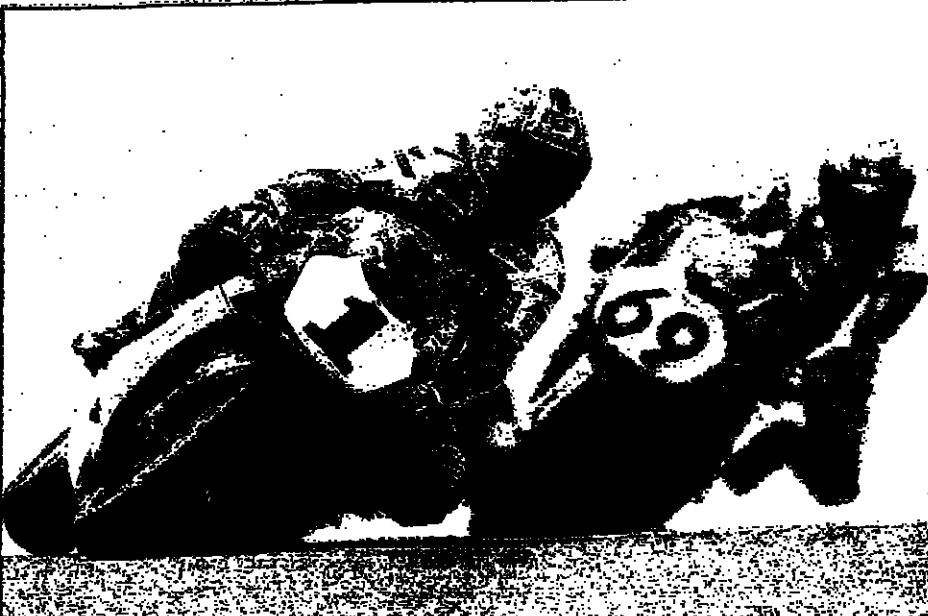
In Ferrari's mind, Fogarty belongs in a very rare class of champion, inhabited by such as Barry Sheene, Kenny Roberts and Kevin Schwantz. The

problem is that he rides not under the glamorous lights of 500cc grand prix racing but in the more shadowy, down-home, world of the Superbike, which for all its increasing popularity among enthusiasts able to recognise their own machines on the track, has yet to capture the imagination of a wider audience.

The Superbike is motorcycling's equivalent of the Indy car, heavier, a second or so slower a lap, but more fun to watch. A crowd of 22,000 at Donington almost matched recent figures for the 500cc grand prix but, judging by the number of Union Jacks and banners proclaiming Britain's first bike champion since Sheene, if Fogarty defects to grand prix racing — as he might, money and politics permitting — his followers might well go with him much as Mansell's did when he left Formula One.

Unlike his predecessor Sheene, though, Fogarty's appeal cannot easily be turned into advertisement for aftershave or deodorant. Sheene once made bike racing fashionable. But the similarity between the two begins with the blue eyes and ends in a common talent. Fogarty is the biker's biker, tough and uncompromising, and all those who rode their way back down the M1 yesterday evening, fuelled by fantasy, will hope the volcano keeps rumbling for another year or two.

Results, page 33



Fogarty, riding a Ducati, leads third-placed Jamie Whitham in his first race yesterday

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Fast bowler's search for rhythm mirrors West Indies' quest for confidence

Ambrose troubled by demons of doubt



SIMON BARNES
At Lord's

SELF-BELIEF is a balloon: one tiny hole and the whole damn thing has gone. It has to be complete, or it does not exist at all. How do you set about rebuilding a pricked balloon?

Talk to Graeme Hick about self-confidence and Curtly Ambrose almost destroyed Hick as a batsman, as a human being.

Ambrose, with the monolithic support of the West Indian mutual self-belief system behind him, made a deliberate assault on Hick's body and mind. Every run Hick has made since is a kind of tribute to both men.

Ambrose is cricket's great inspirer of self-doubt. He is part of the seamless tradition of West Indian in-your-face cricket. He is the man who can let loose the demons and set them to run amok through the minds of the opposition.

But, perhaps bored by the routine of mayhem, the demons have now turned on Ambrose. Not a wicket to his name in this Texaco Trophy one-day series; an awful lot of scowling, self-castigating walks back to his mark, an awful lot of moody brooding in the long grass.

It is not just Ambrose. Self-doubt has affected the entire side. Yesterday an outbreak of ragged fielding spread like a disease through the team. It seems that, in the same way, the pox of self-doubt continues to run through the team at a gallop.

Self-belief is the most elusive thing in sport. It is an infinitely fragile thing that makes you — at least for a time — indestructible. West Indies had patented a method of

passing self-belief from player to player, from generation to generation.

When one great player went, another came. Each new player arrived confident, achieved confidence, and had still more confidence thrust upon him. It seemed that this would never change; and it has.

That is why this one-day series has been almost important. It is normally a *novelle* *cuisine* hors-d'oeuvre, a bit of flattery, a slice of kiwi, three swallows and that's it. This time it has been serious. After losing a Test series to Australia, West Indies need to refine the rhythm of self-belief, the eleven-man certainty that has overwhelmed country after country, turn and turn about, for 15 years.

Ambrose against Michael Atherton on an Ambrose-friendly pitch: a grapple to set the tone for the summer. In the first hour, Atherton played and missed a dozen times, but there is no scorer's mark for a moral victory.

Ambrose failed to nab him, and Atherton moved forward into one of those brief, blissful periods of distilled confidence that come rarely even to the best of batsmen, when nobody can bowl at him, and nobody even wants to try. Not even Curtly.

Instead, Ambrose bowled eight no-balls, always the giveaway sign of a fast bowler struggling for rhythm or for confidence, which are much the same thing anyway. Each no-ball was followed by more self-battering, the run up becoming a self-conscious, chop-



Hick is bowled after making room to force the off spin of Hooper through the off side at Lord's yesterday

py stride. Nor was it just Ambrose. He just feels it more, being the main man. Ten no-balls in total; nine wides.

Nor is the malaise all bowling. It is just that the West Indian strength has for years been fast bowling, the very place where decline seemed unshakable.

The fielding crumbled: yesterday the England batsmen were able to get away with

things. In the latter part of the innings, they put pressure on the field and collected free runs in consequence.

Bating completes the circle of self-doubt. Lara was out for 11 in what was almost a caricature. Hooper scratched and grafted for an eternity; meanwhile, Richardson seems to sink further and further down the order.

West Indies have needed something more than good

one-day cricket in this one-day series. They needed to re-establish their reputation for the real thing that is to come. Most especially, they needed to re-establish their reputations in their own minds. I do not think they have done this.

Not yet, anyway. But some individuals, some emerge still stronger from a period of troubles. Hick might agree with this: Atherton most

certainly will, as yesterday he performed the unfamiliar action of hitting a West Indian quick bowler for six.

It might not even take that much: a moist morning for the bowlers, a true track for the batsmen, a single session of pure Lara, perhaps just a single wicket of pure Curtly. West Indies are quite capable of competing their personal demons. Then there will be the devil to pay.

Gloucestershire thwarted in thrilling climax

By SIMON WILDE

GLOUCESTER (Gloucestershire won toss): Worcester (4pts) beat Gloucestershire on faster scoring rate

WORCESTERSHIRE have turned themselves into formidable one-day specialists, which is just as well because their championship form is dire. They won £62,000 in one-day prize-money last year, and are on course to pull in another substantial sum over the next few months. A thrilling win over Gloucestershire yesterday maintained their 100 per cent record in the AXA Equity & Law League.

For much of the day, it

looked as though they would win with ease, but Gloucestershire's target of 226 was reduced by two rainfalls — the second after only four balls of their innings — to 181 from 32 overs, and even though they lost wickets at regular intervals, they remained in distant touch with their target.

With nine overs remaining, they needed 84 runs to win with five wickets in hand, several top-order batsmen having got out to rash strokes. Symonds and Russell took 23 runs from the next two overs, and although Symonds was then bowled by Radford — who would finish with five wickets — Russell had by then got the bit between his teeth.

With a series of brilliantly improvised strokes, he and Ball took 17 runs off the twentieth over, from Radford, ten off the 31st, from Newport, and — with 14 needed — 11 off the first five balls of the final over, from Radford. With three runs needed, Ball hit the ball cleanly to wide long-on, but Moody raced round the boundary to taking a fine tumbling catch.

Russell, who must take much of the credit for Gloucestershire's own excellent limited-overs form this season, finished unbeaten on 56, made from 36 balls and containing one six and six fours.

Not for the first time, a challenging Worcestershire

total was founded on a century stand between Curtis and Moody. They have often done so as opening partners — including six times during the 1991 season, when Moody amassed a record 917 runs in the competition — but yesterday they did not come together until the tenth over, when the promising Church was caught on the boundary hooking.

In fewer than 18 overs, Curtis and Moody put on 110, and while the fielders retained their composure, some of the bowlers did not. Srinath, not for the first time, found accuracy more elusive in his second spell, and Ball's first over went for 13, although he was to recover well. Gloucestershire were further disrupted

by an injury to Smith, who damaged his hand attempting a return catch.

Moody struck 65 from 62 balls, with nine fours, and was removed only through a sharply executed stumping by Russell. He might have been caught by Lynch at short midwicket when 34, but needed no further invitation to reach his third half-century in three Sunday league outings this season. He was replaced by Haynes, who was no less fierce in his hitting in making a run-a-ball 40 out of 63 added with Curtis in 11 overs. Curtis batted through his side's innings of 225 for three to finish unbeaten on 82.

Barwick keeps control

By JACK BAILEY

— a match-winning performance as it turned out. For once, Graham Cowdrey failed to make his mark in a Sunday League match, but with Fleming and Ealham in such rip-roaring form Glamorgan were greatly relieved that he did not.

Ealham's 47 from only 24 balls included no fewer than four sixes and while he was at the crease Kent emerged from

the field with Glamorgan on 52 for no wicket, Morris with 35 against his name and Glamorgan riding high.

With the game now reduced to 23 overs a side, Glamorgan could afford to let rip without hindrance. James continued to play the bridesmaid, this time to Cottee, hero, with Maynard, of Glamorgan's brave attempt to win the championship match which finished here on Saturday. Maynard was quickly out on this occasion but Cottee employing every part of the bat, including the bottom edge, put the Kent attack to rout.

Even Headley, who took the first three wickets and four in all, felt the full power of little Cottee's bat which bought him 50 from 54 balls. A bristling innings by Dale, run out off the last ball of the innings for 36, took Glamorgan to 180 exactly and left Kent their sizeable task of making their runs at 7.83 per over. It proved beyond them, but only just.

Glamorgan had done well to reach 180 after being put in to bat on a wicket where the bounce was the main factor inhibiting fast scoring. They were given a rattling good start by Morris, who set about swinging in the rain to great effect.

He dealt severely with all the Kent bowling, none more drastically than that of Igglesden, struggling without success to find form after a spell of injuries. Morris hoisted him for two sixes to long leg, clearing the assembled tented village with ease.

Another six and two fours, featured in the Glamorgan captain's innings as both Igglesden and Ealham suffered further indignities before rain drove the players off the field with Glamorgan on 52 for no wicket, Morris with 35 against his name and Glamorgan riding high.

With the game now reduced to 23 overs a side, Glamorgan could afford to let rip without hindrance. James continued to play the bridesmaid, this time to Cottee, hero, with Maynard, of Glamorgan's brave attempt to win the championship match which finished here on Saturday. Maynard was quickly out on this occasion but Cottee employing every part of the bat, including the bottom edge, put the Kent attack to rout.

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There has been much talk already this season of Lancashire possessing the requisite balance, to say nothing of the talent, to contest the county championship in a more serious manner than for many a year. In the Benson and Hedges Cup they have amassed more than sufficient runs to reach the semi-finals. But what of the AXA Equity & Law League? Merely four wins out of four and the leadership of the table.

How long they can stay up for is quite another matter. All too often in recent years, this proud county has promised considerably more than they have achieved. It is of great importance to them that when their England players are away, as Atherton, Fairbrother and Martin were yesterday, those who take their places are not found wanting. This week Lancashire have been playing at Liverpool, where strength in depth is taken for granted.

That is the case at Anfield. At Algburth and, yesterday, at Old Trafford, lesser known names have been to the fore. Nottinghamshire were beaten by four wickets on account of an unbeaten half-century by Lloyd, the son of the coach, who was given the necessary support from Austin, a chunky all-rounder better known for his bowling. And with Glamorgan beating Kent at Tumbidge Wells and Surrey not playing, Lancashire have a clear lead of the table.

By contrast, the 40-overs game has not always been to Lancashire's liking. This season, however, they have won three matches including that against Durham yesterday. In a rain-affected affair at Grace Road, Leicestershire won on a faster scoring rate. Durham simply did not make enough runs: Larkins hit 42 off 48 balls with a six and six fours before he was brilliantly caught in the deep by Cronje. The medium-pace of Maddy, who had previously bowled just five overs in this competition, was also their undoing. He took the wickets of Morris, Longley and Ligertwood at scant cost.

Leicestershire's target was a modest one. Needing 161, they lost Briers to Killeen, of whom little is known to batsmen beyond his potential. This was his debut. But a partnership between Cronje and Wells was sufficient. Leicestershire reached their revised target through Wells making an unbeaten 66 off 78 balls with eight fours.

Northamptonshire gained their first points of the season when their match against Yorkshire at Sheffield was abandoned owing to heavy rain. At this point, Bailey, Northamptonshire's acting captain, was making some progress with Sales, who last year at the age of 16 and 289 days became the youngest

batsman to score a half-century in this competition. They put on 56 in nine overs, a partnership that proved to be in vain.

Hampshire suffered another defeat, albeit by a narrow margin. Sussex beat them at Portsmouth by their eighth runs. Nicholas, their captain, who, until his side beat Sussex in the championship on Saturday had not achieved a victory in any competition, batted — or rather battled — as well as anybody. But his half-century was not sufficient. Stephenson, the Sussex Stephenson to the attack and he cleaned up the lower order.

He had Streak brilliantly caught by Salisbury running back from mid-off then removed Nicholas, for 66, and Connor in the last over. Jason Lewry, the left-arm seamer, began Hampshire's collapse by removing John Stephenson and Robin Smith.

A gritty 39 from Neil Lenham, 32 off 34 balls from John North and some big hitting at the finish from Salisbury and Moores enabled Sussex to pass 200.

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YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

AXA Equity & Law League

Leicestershire v Durham

LEICESTER (Durham won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Durham on faster run rate

DURHAM
M A Roseberry c Pearson b Parsons 11
W Larkins c Maddy b Parsons 42
M Pethiker c Whitaker b Parsons 28
M Searley c Maddy b Parsons 0
J E Morris c Maddy b Parsons 15
J L Angley c Maddy b Parsons 26
J G C Ligertwood c Pearson b Maddy 3
J Belling not out 5
N Killeen c Pearson b Parsons 6
S J E Brown b Maddy 6
M M Batts not out 0
Extras (lb 7, w 12) 19
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-76, 3-76, 4-88, 5-130, 6-133, 7-144, 8-150, 9-160.
BOWLING: Parsons 5-0-20-1; Maddy 5-0-20-1; Maddy 4-0-27-5; Cronje 3-1-19-2; Pearson 3-0-34-2; Maddy 7-1-31-3.

Essex v Middlesex

CHELMSFORD (Middlesex won toss): Essex (4pts) beat Middlesex by two runs

ESSEX
P J Pritchard c and b Gelling 54
M E Waugh c Brown b Fotherham 19
N Russell c Brown b Gelling 13
G A Gough c Fotherham b Gelling 50
R C Imani c and b Fotherham 14
D J B Robinson not out 13
J B Lewis c Waugh b Gelling 5
Extras (lb 8, w 10, nb 2) 20
Total (8 wickets, 37 overs) 178

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-69, 3-106, 4-121, 5-171, 6-178.
BOWLING: Johnson 7-0-50-0; Nash 5-0-18-0; Fotherham 5-0-25-1; Tunall 5-0-33-1; Gelling 5-0-41-4.

Kent v Glamorgan

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent won toss): Glamorgan (4pts) beat Kent by 11 runs

GLAMORGAN
S P James b Headley 29
H Morris c Cowley b Headley 38
M P Maynard b Headley 52
P A Cottee b Headley 52
D L Mapp c Igglesden b McCague 36
A Dale not out 7
R D B Croft not out 7
Extras (lb 1, b 4, w 4) 9
Total (8 wickets, 23 overs) 160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61, 2-76, 3-107, 4-112, 5-165, 6-180.
BOWLING: Igglesden 4-0-32-0; Ealham 3-0-14-0; Headley 5-0-32-4; McCague 4-0-45-1; Fleming 2-0-22-0.

Yorkshire v Northamptonshire

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire won toss): Match abandoned. Yorkshire and Northamptonshire parts for two each

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
A Fotherham b and b Hartley 7
D J Capel c Stamp b Milburn 16
K M Curran c Vaughan b Milburn 4
T C Watson b and b Milburn 39
R J Bailey not out 0
D J Sales not out 27
Extras (lb 2, b 4, w 1) 7
Total (4 wickets, 31.4 overs) 146

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-18, 3-41, 4-87.
BOWLING: Milburn 5-1-29-2; Hartley 6-4-29-1; Robinson 6-1-22-0; Stamp 3-0-18-0; White 6-0-20-0; Sales 2-1-7-1.

Gloucestershire v Worcestershire

GLOUCESTER (Gloucestershire won toss): Worcestershire (4pts) beat Gloucestershire on faster run rate

WORCESTERSHIRE
T S Curtis not out 32
M C Smith c Dawson b Cooper 17
M Moody c Russell b Ball 66
G R Haynes c and b Srinath 40
D A Leathdale not out 6
Extras (lb 1, w 4, nb 8) 13
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 225

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-145, 3-208.
BOWLING: Srinath 8-0-44-4; Cooper 6-0-18-0; Smith 5-1-40-3; Ball 5-0-44-1; Dawson 2-0-2-0; Ailstone 5-0-59-0.

Warwickshire v Somerset

EDGBASTON (Somerset won toss): Warwickshire (4pts) beat Somerset on faster run rate

WARWICKSHIRE
N V Knight c Trescowthick b Trump 23
N M K Smith b Trump 39
A J Hirst c and b Trump 32
A J Hirst c and b Trump 32
D A Preece not out 17
P A Smith b Kerr 9
T L Penney c Holloway b Kerr 9
R J Brown b Kerr 0
R J Phipps not out 7
Extras (lb 6, w 14, nb 6) 28
Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) 280

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-63, 3-78, 4-89, 5-122, 6-170, 7-178.
BOWLING: Newport 3-0-41-0; Haynes 4-0-13-1; Lampitt 6-0-31-1; Kingsworth 4-0-32-1; Radford 6-0-57-5.

Lancashire v Nottinghamshire

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by four wickets

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
M P Downman c Hogg b Wainwright 13
R T Robinson c Wainwright b Wainwright 28
P Johnson b Austin 28
C J Cairns c Wainwright b Yates 27
C T Archer not out 27
K P Evans not out 7
Extras (lb 5, w 2) 7
Total (5 wickets, 39 overs) 172

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-103, 3-113, 4-157, 5-172.
BOWLING: Wainwright 8-1-38-1; Chapple 7-0-28-0; Wainwright 5-0-32-0; Wainwright 5-0-35-1; Yates 5-1-38-2.

Lancashire v Somerset

EDGBASTON (Somerset won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Somerset on faster run rate

SOMERSET
M E Trescowthick c Phipps b Munton 34
N M K Smith b and b Munton 34
R J Hirst c and b Phipps 34
G R Haynes c Phipps b Munton 39
S G Eccles not out 31
Mushaq Ahmed not out 4
Extras (lb 6, w 6, nb 4) 16
Total (5 wickets, 29 overs) 177

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-18, 3-44, 4-85, 5-171.
BOWLING: Reeve 7-0-35-0; Munton 6-4-19-0; Hirst 4-0-47-1; Kerr 5-0-3-3; Trump 3-1-37-3; Mushaq Ahmed 5-1-38-0.

Minor Counties Championship

Worcestershire 182 and Gloucestershire 76; Middlesex 137 (Alistair Hogg 76); Marnell 6 for 13; Stafford: Hordcroft 230-70es (N Wright 81 not out, R Smith 67) and 25-0; Gloucestershire 231-4pts (F Headline 82, P Rowdon 50 not out).

Answers from page 32

DECORATION

(a) Deliverance from the flesh or from carnality. From the Latin past participle *decoratus* striped of flesh, *car-nem* flesh. "God's incarnation enable man for his own decoration, as I may say, and destructure of carnality."

ESALON

(b) The name of a bird of prey, "the rust-hole or moor-buzzard" (Lewis and Short) "the merlin" (Liddell and Scott); in context of the first question it is said to be the smallest of the buzzard kind.

DWINE

(c) To waste or pine away, to decline in vigor, languish, fade, wither. Old English from an original Teutonic strong verb.

DESPECTION

(d) A looking down upon, despising, from the Latin *despectio* — *despicere* to look down upon.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qxd4 wins after 1... Rxd4 2 Rxd6: hogs 3 Rxd4. A mistake would be 1 Rxd4 Qe6 2 Rxd5 Qe4 3 Kf2 Qh4 4 Kgl Qel and Black obtains a perpetual check draw.

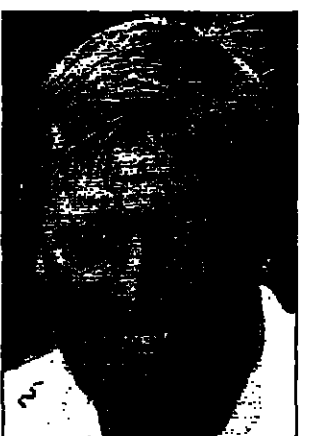
TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Glamorgan (4pts) beat Kent by 11 runs

CRICKET balls were at a premium when Kent, unbeaten in the AXA Equity & Law Sunday League, thus far, took on Glamorgan, who know a thing or two about playing this variation of the game. In a match reduced by rain to 23 overs a side, the ball kept clearing the tents on the Nevill ground and having to be replaced.

Batsmen of both teams shared the blame. Morris, of Glamorgan, Fleming and Ealham, of Kent, but in the end it was Glamorgan who won the day in a desperately exciting finish, keeping their heads as Kent reached the stage of needing only 17 runs from the last two overs after they had fallen well behind the asking rate and six wickets were down for 105.

While first Fleming, then Ealham, were in full flow it was tempting to believe that nothing could stop them. But then Barwick's persistence and coolness under pressure paid off. He had been the main sufferer when Fleming took the bit between his teeth and Maynard dropped a stiffer off him on the mid-wicket boundary.

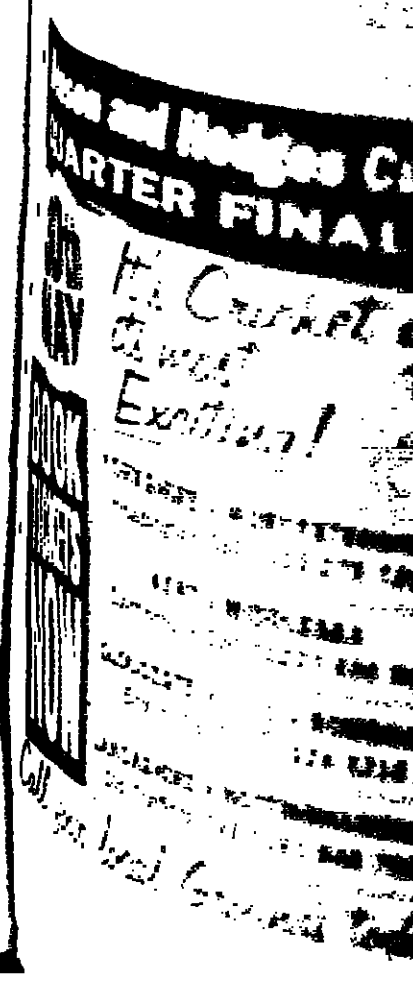
But as Glamorgan held their catches so Barwick became the main beneficiary and finished, deservedly, with the excellent figures of 6 for 49



Morris: rousing start

the direst of positions into a brief period where they were firm favourites to win.

Glamorgan had done well to reach 180 after being put in to bat on a wicket where the bounce was the main factor inhibiting fast scoring. They were given a rattling good start by Morris, who set about swinging in the rain to great effect.



relief, for what is probably the final season in charge was at risk of terminal decline before the start of June.

Gloucestershire are a team of the moment, a force that is a tribute to the fact that Jack Russell has moulded and motivated in his first month as captain, and they saw off the disappointing Worcesters without fuss. The other emerging forces, Yorkshire and Lancashire, are not having things quite their own way, however, and while Lancashire may run out of time against Nottinghamshire next day, Yorkshire's prospects of avoiding defeat against the leaders, Northamptonshire

The Openers.

Play-off final puts one of football's poor relations in sight of Premiership Reading prepare to break new ground

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

FOR John Madejski, the Reading chairman, it was an isolated barb amid an avalanche of praise and support. Yet it hurt, deeply. "Maybe you think it's vulgar what Jack Walker has done at Blackburn Rovers but he has been a supporter all his life and has now reaped the rewards," the letter read. "It's just a hobby for you. You have no feeling towards Reading and will desert them as soon as it goes wrong."

Madejski, mortified, read on: "If Reading fans had a choice between you and Walker, it would be no contest. You and Robert Chase deserve each other. It's not surprising that you've said you're going to walk to Wembley because you're too tight to pay the bus fare."

Though signed, the venomous missive bore no address. "It's a shame, I'd like to have replied," Madejski said. "I feel sorry for the person who wrote it. It's quite dreadful really, horrendous. You work hard and try to do your best and you get something like this."

Reading, poor little Reading, stand on the brink of the FA Carling Premiership. If they beat Bolton Wanderers in the Endleigh Insurance League first division play-off final at Wembley today, they will enter a world of arrogance and avarice never experienced in their modest 124-year history. It is an exciting and frightening prospect, a nervous lurch into the unknown.

Madejski does not deny he described the massive spending of Walker, the Blackburn benefactor, as "vulgar". "Maybe my language was a bit fruity but it was not meant personally," he said. He paused, though, at the comparison with Chase, the Norwich City chairman, who has been blamed for the club's relegation from the Premiership. He winced, too, at the accusation of short arms and deep pockets; he is walking to Wembley to raise money for the Children in Need charity.

"I get very resentful about that, sometimes," he said. "It's not as if I've sat on my backside doing nothing over the past 4½ years. It's unfair for people to keep wanting more and more. I might have £5 million on paper but it's not cash. Perhaps the answer is to sell all my interests but I'm not of a mind to do that. Why should I?"

Madejski, 54, has been ranked as the eighth richest person in Britain, worth an estimated £150 million from his publishing empire. He has given Reading £3 million in loans that he accepts are effectively irrevocable. The bank overdraft stands at £590,000 and the Berkshire club, second division champions last year, will lose £500,000 this season.

No amount of wealth, however, can archive Elm Park, Reading's archaic ground, for what might lie ahead. Though its pitch is still green and grassy, and the imaginative players who grace it have deservedly, if surprisingly, earned a tilt at the Premier-



Madejski, the Reading chairman, is aware that Elm Park's antiquated charm is ill-suited to the Premiership. Photograph: Stewart Cook

ship, everything else is locked into a time warp, with the decaying main stand, with its honeycomb of small rooms and offices underneath, the three sides of terraces, two without cover, that provide quaint yet antiquated surroundings.

Elm Park celebrates its centenary in September next year but it has long since become a frail old lady. It has a capacity of 14,000 that, when reached, stretches the club's resources to the point of collapse, and there are only 2,200 seats.

Improvements have been made since Madejski rode in to combat the threats of extinction, yet the rows of terraced houses that envelop the ground prevent any realistic expansion. The team that Mark McGhee built, before moving on to Leicester City in December, and the team that Mick Gooding and Jimmy

Quinn, the joint player-managers, have inherited and inspired, has simply outgrown its home.

"It's all a bit scary," Madejski admitted. "Premiership football is an awesome possibility and, at the moment, it feels like we're going to a wedding without a house to live in. None of the board has any real football experience, it's all been done a bit hand to mouth on one enormous learning curve, and perhaps we're not ready for this."

A ground-share option, with Queens Park Rangers and Chelsea considered, was scotched by local public opinion and the Football League, but at least Reading still have two years — Bolton, who were promoted two seasons ago, have only one — in which to comply with the all-seater requirement of the Taylor Report.

"Both clubs are well aware of what they have to do," John De Quidi, the chief executive of the Football Licensing Authority, said. "It's not a case of us sending in the cavalry, but we are monitoring the situation."

Salvation, though, is at hand. As Bolton write off Burnley Park and move into new, purpose-built accommodation, Reading will also bid farewell to Elm Park. A £30 million, 20,000-capacity stadium is planned for the outskirts of the town, by the M4 and next to the speedway and greyhound tracks at Smallmead. However, it will not be ready until the 1997-98 season, with construction unable to start before decontamination of the former rubbish tip has been completed.

Until then, Reading will muddle through, barely concerned that Sir John Hall, the chairman of Newcastle United, has questioned their right to a place among the elite. Sir John's closed-shop mentality is typical Premiership pomposity and he conveniently forgets that, three years ago, Newcastle came perilously close to joining Reading in the old third division. Three years ago, presumably, some of his postbag was less than complimentary, too.

Between Osborn and Jason McAteer, the Ireland international and an inspiration in midfield for Bolton, will have an important bearing, though Reading have concentrated on their own approach rather than the opposition.

"We haven't talked about what they can do," Osborn said. "It's about what we can do. If we perform to the standard we have done all season, I'm sure we can beat them. We beat them at home six weeks ago and I don't see why we can't repeat that on the bigger pitch in the bigger atmosphere of Wembley."

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K. Pilkington, S. Green, J. Phillips, J. McAteer, G. Simpson, A. Shields, D. Coyne, M. Parnham, J. McGinley, A. Thompson, J. Dwyer, F. de Freitas, N. McDonald, P. Shelton, A. Dawson. READING (4-4-2): S. Hasko, A. Bernal, M. Collins, D. Wozniak, A. Williams, M. McPherson, S. Osborn, M. Gooding, S. Taylor, S. Lovell, L. Nogan, Subs (from): J. Quinn, J. Hopkins, P. Parkinson, S. Sheppard, J. Jones, D. Kerr.

Osborn intent on second promotion

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

SIMON OSBORN has delayed a knee ligament operation until Friday so that he can take his place in the Reading side to meet Bolton Wanderers in the Endleigh Insurance League first division play-off final today.

Osborn, who has been out for three months this year and will play today in some discomfort, passed up the chance of FA Carling Premiership football when he decided to join Reading from Crystal Palace last summer. He appeared only intermittently for Palace last season as they won the first division championship.

The 23-year-old midfielder player, a £90,000 signing, has been attracting the Premiership scouts all season as Reading's most influential player. "I ran out of contract at Palace and hadn't played that many games in the promotion-winning side," he said. "I needed to get away, partly because of the style of play there and also I needed a new challenge. Reading gave me that and now, if we can reach the Premiership, that's my goal achieved."

It is no coincidence that in the nine games since Osborn returned, Reading have hit their best form of the season, with Stuart Lovell and Lee Nogan, the strikers, scoring 14 goals in this spell. Wembley should suit Reading and Bolton, who will be making their second appearance there in two months after the defeat by Liverpool in the Coca-Cola Cup final, as the sides play attractive, passing football. The duel

between Osborn and Jason McAteer, the Ireland international and an inspiration in midfield for Bolton, will have an important bearing, though Reading have concentrated on their own approach rather than the opposition.

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Bury's fire burns out too quickly

Alyson Rudd sees justice done as Chesterfield triumph 2-0 in third division play-off final

FOOTBALL is an uncomplicated game but what rules there are have to be obeyed. On Saturday, Bury broke one of the golden ones and inevitably came unstuck.

The Lancashire side strode out for the Endleigh Insurance League third division play-off final and began immediately to play as if a date at Wembley was as nerve-racking as filling up the kettle.

This was Bury's first visit to Wembley, yet they passed the ball with aplomb and peppered the Chesterfield goalmouth with shots that required the very best of Stewart, the Chesterfield goalkeeper. So much for the truism of taking time to settle into a game on the big occasion.

So much, too, for the need to make a bright start. After 23 minutes of looking clear losers, Chesterfield scored, soaked up more Bury pressure, and then took a 2-0 lead into the interval.

It rocked Bury to their core. And their second-half performance was as profligate as their first-half efforts had been superior.

Lornor's shot. Paul Alcock, the referee, decided Robinson had connected with the ball, although it was clear from the replay you would have to question how much gel the former Aston Villa and Wolverhampton Wanderers midfielder puts in his hair if contact had been made.

Robinson acknowledged as much after the match as he ruffled his fringe and said he was content just to claim the second goal, a firm 41st minute header from Law's throw-in.

In the end the scoreline could have been embarrassing. Chesterfield failed to punish an increasingly dispirited Bury and Davies and Morris fluffed simple chances late in the match.

Mike Walsh, the Bury manager, could not bring himself to agree that as Chesterfield had finished one point above his side in the third division, the play-off final had brought justice. He did, however, praise the play-off system for giving supporters a trip to Wembley they had all seemingly enjoyed immensely.

BURY (4-4-2): G. Kelly — A. Woodward, C. Luvett, M. Jackson, R. Stansfield — J. Mulligan (sub: J. Hughes, 67 min), A. Rigby, N. Cline, D. Pugh — M. Carter (sub: J. Fisher, 46), P. Sturt. CHESTERFIELD (4-4-2): B. Stewart — J. Hewitt, D. Carr, N. Law, L. Rogers — D. Hackett, P. Robinson, J. Collins, J. Howard (sub: G. Perkins, 77) — A. Lornor (sub: K. Davies, 85), A. Morris. Referee: P. Alcock.

End justifies means for grateful Celtic

Airdrieonians 0 Celtic 1

By KEVIN MCCARRA

CELTIC'S supporters gave their quality control department Saturday afternoon off. A single goal from Pierre van Hooijdonk beat Airdrieonians in the Tennents Scottish Cup Final and nobody on the victors' side was prepared to quibble over the manner in which Celtic's first trophy for six years had been attained. "I wouldn't care if we'd won 2-0," one fan summed up at Hampden Park.

As a spectacle, the game did carry only fractional interest, but Celtic, after taking a lead in just nine minutes through the Dutch striker's slick header from Tosh McKinlay's cross, were not obliged to do any further buccannery. For their part, Airdrie found that carefully-prepared tactics had suddenly become inappropriate.

Half of Alex MacDonald's team were employed as man-to-man markers and they did succeed in disrupting the opposition's lines of communication. Celtic were even forced back, but Airdrie's pressing game carried on cutting edge. Although the Lanarkshire club chased an equaliser, that quarry was far beyond them and Pat Bonner was obliged only to make one serious save.

The game itself must be quickly forgotten and Celtic will prefer instead to savour its consequences. Hampden was flecked with little biogra-

phies of joy. The manager, Tommy Burns, had won a big prize in his first harrowing year in charge. Paul McCann, whose missed penalty gave Raith Rovers the Coca-Cola Cup in November, was free of the fear that he might become the only Celtic captain never to win a trophy. Peter Grant, after being doubtful with a serious knee injury, impelled himself to the man-of-the-match award, assembling a display composed of voracious tackling, shrewd judgment and handsome passing. Most important of all, he and the rest of the team will no longer hear their temperament and courage mocked.

In one respect, though, Celtic do have to care about their performance in the final. Burns has to assess continually the distance that separates his side from Rangers. It cannot be enough for Celtic to abruptly win a trophy once or twice a decade. They are expected to be capable of competing steadily for honours.

The Cup itself is a highly agreeable diversion, but Celtic recognise that their principal obligations lie with the Bell's Scottish League championship. The club has not only failed to prevent Rangers winning the premier division for the past seven seasons, but has never even been in contention. The resulting discontent brought about a takeover of Celtic last year. Celtic's new regime has almost immediately excelled its predecessors, yet is still far from restoring prosperity and harmony. The team may not be quite



Van Hooijdonk celebrates by lifting the Scottish Cup

so dreary as Saturday suggested, but Burns does need to buy flair. The whole process, curiously enough, is likely to involve the sale of the deft midfielder player, John Collins. He believes that the final marked the end of his years with Celtic and is now ready to sample English football, perhaps with Chelsea or Middlesbrough.

The sale may bring Burns around £2.5 million to add to his war chest. Spending it, though, is a vexed business. A significant role in transfer deals is taken by the managing director and effective owner of Celtic, Fergus McCann. Burns is infuriated that his employer's desire to negotiate favourable terms has so far prevented the signing of Marc Degryse, of Anderlecht, and Dmitri Radchenko, of Racing

Stewart's dismay bars path to riches for Rovers

Bristol Rovers 1 Huddersfield Town 2

By ALYSON RUDD

MARCUS STEWART, the Bristol-born Bristol Rovers forward, will have a recurring nightmare featuring a tape-measure. Twice he struck the woodwork, most heartachingly in the ninety-third minute with a delicious, swerving shot, but despite his best efforts, Huddersfield Town were not to be denied their first Wembley success in the Endleigh Insurance League second division play-off final yesterday.

The first division can now welcome the club it would probably have preferred. Huddersfield can boast a state-of-the-art stadium; Bristol Rovers cannot boast a ground at all, having to make do with sharing facilities with the non-league club, Bath City. But there was nothing inferior about their performance.

It was only Rovers' second defeat in their last 17 games, an impressive enough run for John Ward, their manager, to give an honest, critical assessment of how his side let themselves down during the first 45 minutes.

Huddersfield looked to have secured a deserved half-time advantage when, in injury time, an overhead kick from Jepson was kept in the air by Bullock and Scully, and finally headed in by Booth. However, just 68 seconds later, Rovers equalised through Stewart. It gave Rovers the adrenalin kick they needed. Their fluid second-half display was a credit to the division, and deserved some reward.

When the ball rebounded off the crossbar in the 53rd minute, Taylor, three yards out, should have scored off the rebound. Stewart was a constant threat, but Huddersfield bided their time until Dunn came on as substitute and crossed the ball to Booth, who headed across the goalmouth for Billy to give Huddersfield the lead.

Browning blasted in a terrific 25-yard shot that was just tipped over the crossbar by Francis with four minutes left, and when Stewart hit the crossbar in the last minute, Rovers' fate was sealed. More than 59,000, a second division play-off final record attendance, saw one of Wembley's better matches.

It now remains to be seen whether Neil Warnock, the Huddersfield manager, stays with the club. He has been tipped to join Derby County and has made no secret of his dissatisfaction with his contract, which is due for renewal.

BRISTOL ROVERS (4-4-2): B. Parker — D. Richards, B. Clark, A. Taylor, A. Gurney, W. Shefferson, S. Taylor, J. Charnock (sub: L. Archer, 67 min) — G. Taylor (sub: M. Shefferson, 85), S. Stewart. HUDDERSFIELD TOWN (4-2-4): S. Francis — S. Trevitt (sub: J. Dwyer, 55), P. Scully, L. Simpson, T. Cowan — D. Bullock, L. Oxbury — C. Bell, A. Booth, R. Jepson, G. Crosby (sub: I. Dunn, 80). Referee: C. Williams.

Change of style for Eubank in brief, but bloody win

By SRIKUMAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS a pity Chris Eubank's bout with Bruno Godoy lasted just 2min 45sec, the referee ruling the Argentinian could not continue after his left eye was badly cut in an accidental clash of heads.

Everyone at the King's Hall, Belfast, was looking forward to finding out whether Eubank was really capable of boxing positively after so many years of doing as little as possible in the ring.

However, even in that short spell it was possible to detect a distinct improvement in Eubank's attitude. He is so determined to avenge the defeat by Steve Collins, of Ireland, last March, that he finally came to his senses, put aside his showboating and got down to boxing. Eubank also said he felt more relaxed because the pressures of being champion had been lifted.

For a change, Eubank did not rely so much on counter-punching and went after his man. He caught Godoy with stiff jabs several times and an uppercut split the Argentinian's nose early in the round. One solid left hook that landed cleanly on Godoy's chin clearly indicated that, not only did Eubank mean business, but that the bout would not go the distance.

Eubank swore that he would not let Collins off again when they meet in July. Eubank, who had the Irishman on the floor in their bout but did not follow up the advantage, is still smarting from the psychological trick that Collins played on him.

He was reported to have claimed that he had been hypnotised and that not only was he immune to pain but could see the target area greatly magnified and



Eubank: positive approach

Eubank's punches coming in slow motion. "He used unnatural tactics," Eubank said. "Ones which were unfair and I did not make allowances for. He spooked me. I was close to pulling out. Next time I'll beat him come what may. He has the devil on his side. There is no hope for him. He will get annihilated."

Eubank cannot wait to get Collins in the ring but fears the champion will "wiggle and squirm" to get out of the bout. "I'm sure he wants to get out of it," Eubank said, "because I was 55 per cent last time. God forbid that I'm 60 or 70 per cent next time."

Collins has turned down an offer from his own manager and promoter, Barry Hearn, of £1.2 million and has asked for the contest to go to purse officers. Collins is hoping that some other promoter, such as Frank Warren, will come up with more money.

Purse offers will be open on Tuesday in New York. Hearn said he might not even put in a bid. He said he was looking forward to putting on his manager's hat and picking up his cut of 25 per cent.

The bout has been ordered by the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) and must be held by the end of July. If the purse falls short of Collins's expectation and he withdraws, he risks being stripped of the title.

The bout between Eamon Loughran, the WBO welterweight champion from Northern Ireland, and Angel Beltré, of the Dominican Republic, was also halted because the challenger suffered a cut eyebrow in the third round. The contest between Neil Sinclair, of Belfast, and Andy Jarvis, of Liverpool, was stopped in the third round because Sinclair was cut by the left eye in an accidental clash of heads.

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Slice of history beckons for Agassi and Sampras

FROM STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN PARIS

NO MAN has collected all four grand slam championships since Rod Laver in 1969. No American has achieved the feat since Donald Budge 57 years ago. An additional prize, therefore, dangles before the top two seeds in the French Open which begins today.

Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras have both claimed the other three titles and, in the charming surrounds of Roland Garros, are competing against each other to be the first to claim a piece of history. "If one of us wins it," Agassi states, "that will be a big story."

The odds favour him rather than his compatriot. The top seed, Agassi has twice fea-

tured in the final and reckons that he should have made his initial mark here. On both occasions he was expected to do so but he went down to Andre Gomez in 1990 and Jim Courier the following year. When he did make the breakthrough three years ago it occurred in the most improbable of arenas, the centre court at Wimbledon.

The baseline, following in the trail blazed by Bjorn Borg, was thereafter in turn distracted, disillusioned, ill-disciplined and injured before forging a partnership with Brad Gilbert on the practice court and Brooke Shields off it. He professes to be reformed.

His always rose to the occasion in grand slams," he reveals, "but I don't think I ever enjoyed what was hap-

pening when I was doing it." But, shorn and dressed as a pirate for the first time in January, he visibly revelled in his triumphant debut at the Australian Open.

"I'd win the matches and be at dinner feeling good versus worrying about the next match. It is nice challenging someone to come and beat you, trying to protect your ranking and defending the respect you have earned. That is the difference and it is exciting."

His new philosophy is more consequential than his apparent lack of preparation. In 1992, after reaching the semi-finals at Roland Garros, he did nothing for a fortnight, turned up comparatively unheralded at Wimbledon and proceeded to dumbfound experts and opponents alike.

Reasoning that he "doesn't need that much practice on clay", he has not competed since submitting to Sergi Bruguera in the German Open and indulging in a verbal rally with an irate spectator who accused him of

not trying. Agassi himself was not concerned about his heavy defeat.

He admits that he and Sampras are more vulnerable on clay than on any other surface. However, he adds: "When you are confident, you

are striking the ball well and you are hitting it hard and consistent", for all the difference it makes, you could be playing on cow dung."

He starts against Karsten Braasch, a German renowned for his curious service action. He resembles a windmill out of control and, to his credit, even he can see the funny side of it. "When I watch myself on television," he says, "even I have to laugh."

More serious collisions potentially lie ahead for Agassi. His fellow seeds in the stronger top half of the draw include Alberto Berasategui, last year's runner-up though now plainly out of sorts, Courier, twice the former champion, Goran Ivanisevic and Thomas Muster.

In claiming the Italian Open title a week ago, Muster

extended his unbeaten sequence on clay to 28 matches. He requires four more victories to surpass Mats Wilander's run of a dozen years ago but another 18 to equal the record set by Guillermo Vilas in 1977.

Muster has publicly been playing down his chances of becoming the champion. Nevertheless, he is naturally overflowing with belief and is likely to pose a genuine threat to Agassi, if they follow their scheduled paths to the semi-final, and anybody else he happens to cross.

Sampras concedes that he is not yet content on red sand. He has recently insisted, during his warm-up in Europe, that he is "missing just a bit", but the evidence suggests he remains further away than that from assuming the com-

mand he holds on other surfaces.

Assuming that Sampras does progress to the last eight, he will expect then to endure his most uncomfortable ordeal in the bottom half of the draw. His prospective opponent in the quarter-final is Bruguera, the winner for the past two years and the seventh seed.

Since aggravating a knee injury, originally suffered while playing football during last year's Italian Open, Bruguera has steadily, and ominously, improved.

The women's championship will be dominated by Steffi Graf but not necessarily on court. The second seed has been inactive for two months, fuelling speculation that the spur in her lower spine may prompt her prematurely to end her career.

Deadly finish by Denmark earns tribute from Tergat

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE first port of call for Paul Tergat, after his race in Portsmouth's naval dockyard on Saturday, was to first aid. Elastoplast on both hands and a knee, the latest of Kenya's world champions emerged to commend Rob Denmark on a 5,000 metres well run. An elastoplast performance, no less.

Denmark stuck to Tergat like medical tape after the Kenyan's fall early in the race had allowed him to close a gap. On the run-in, the Briton delivered a kick reminiscent of those which won him the 1993 European Cup and 1994 Commonwealth Games 5,000 metres gold medals.

Whether Denmark would

Olympic and European 5,000 metres champion, Baumann stood between Denmark and a European and Commonwealth double last season.

Denmark reaffirmed his intention to miss the European Cup in Lille next month. The British Athletic Federation (BAF) had better move swiftly if it is to secure the services of the obvious alternative, John Nuttall.

Nuttall performed superbly in the World Cup last September, finishing second, when Denmark was needed for the 10,000 metres. His third place in Portsmouth, ahead of Aguta and a strong British contingent, indicates that Denmark will need to be on his toes if he is to have a fifth successive season as British No.1. But Nuttall said he would accept a European Cup place only if he was contacted soon and guaranteed world championship selection if he runs well in Lille. He would not expect the privilege if he ran poorly.

Relations between the BAF and Britain's leading 5,000 metres pair have improved but remain strained. Although George Gandy, the national event coach, had spoken with him, Denmark has had no contact with the BAF management since his summer successes. "I should imagine I will get some phone calls now because they will probably remember who I am after this has been on telly," he said.

Nuttall recalled how last year he had no help finding races, hence his insistence that if the BAF wants him for Lille, it must call now so he can plan his season beyond the Rome grand prix on June 8.

Paul Evans, fifth in Portsmouth for the 10,000 metres in Lille. He would consider accepting only, he said, "an assurance I get picked for the world championships". At least Yvonne Murray, second in Portsmouth to Derartu Tulu, the world cross country champion from Ethiopia, has committed herself to Lille at 5,000 metres.



Denmark: Winning kick

have won had Tergat, two months into his reign as world cross country champion, layed on his feet throughout a moot point. However, Tergat recovered his composure enough to beat all other challengers, including lameck Aguta, the Commonwealth Games 10,000 metres champion.

"It is important to beat these guys [the Kenyans]," Denmark said. "I will go away confident now for my next race."

Nothing, though, would do more for his confidence than a win on the track in Nuremberg on June 15, when home support will be for Dieter Baumann, Germany's



A moment of calm in the national schools regatta at Holme Pierrepont. Conditions eventually caused curtailment of the programme. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Eton take revenge on Hampton for Ghent defeat

By MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

COMPETITORS from 108 other clubs and schools watched Eton retain their championship title at the national schools rowing regatta and conclude proceedings at Holme Pierrepont on Saturday. They did so with an exhibition of technique, power, and race tactics which snuffed out a challenge from Hampton, who had beaten them, convincingly, at Ghent regatta four weeks previously.

Conditions were dreadful and the rising wind eventually caused the cancellation of the 25-race programme yesterday. Spectators on Saturday, though, had already seen Eton lead, just, from Hampton, Shrewsbury and St Edwards

at halfway in the final race. St Edwards' hopes at this point were dashed when Colin Swainson, 1st 3lb, was catapulted out of the boat by a wave-induced crab as onlookers, in a bus following the contest, waited for Hampton's push. It came too late, at 1,100 metres, when Eton's confidence was established and their stroke, James Cazenove, immediately responded and led his crew on to a clear water win.

Eton's second eight, coached by the British International, Guy Pooley, won the Childe Boyle Cup against other school first eights and Tom Westerling Eton's Norwegian international sculler, won the Championship Sculls and the prize of a new sculling boat, valued at some £4,000.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Nobody would argue that Eton's boat club has maintained its momentum since its foundation in 1816. Eton's Henley record and their nurturing of internationals, Matthew Pinsent being their present star old boy, is unlikely to be challenged by any other school, particularly

since their system today is as impressive as ever.

They use leading coaches, the incumbent being Bruce Grainger who moved to Eton four years ago from his job as the Great Britain junior coach. His pedigree, as Britain's most successful junior international coach, did not prevent him from being used with Eton's junior 16s for two years before moving to the top squad. "One has to learn the way that Eton works and find your place in the system," he said.

Eton's success did not spread to lower age groupings on Saturday and this, according to Paul Wright, an Eton housemaster, former first eight coach and, interestingly, a product of Hampton, is almost deliberate. "We build

towards a final effort at top level and concentrate on technique, not necessarily wins, with the younger members. It is hard for the boys, they love to win." The younger boys can spread their athletic prowess but, said Wright, "in the sixth they stick to rowing. It is the most prestigious sport at school, not necessarily conceived as such by the boys, but certainly by the authorities."

Hampton, and their young coach, Martin Orviss, an ex-swain, were clearly devastated. "Perhaps the worst thing we did was to beat them in Ghent," Julian Fox, Hampton's administrator, said. "It was fair comment since a wounded Etonian becomes motivated. Grainger admitted: "We learnt a lot in Belgium although we were

seriously under power due to illness." Grainger and Orviss will now focus on Henley, although both still have numerous contenders for junior selection, some of whom could well row together under British colours in Poland in August. Henley is almost Eton's second home and has been for nearly two centuries.

Hampton, however, whose boat club was founded only in 1956, has already produced the rowers of the calibre of the Searle brothers and an impressive royal regatta record. The performances of both crews on Saturday will presumably cause the Henley Stewards to give them "selected" status and, admitting, they could not do battle in front of another huge gathering in a Fenny final.

Kent seals victory for Indio

INDIO retained the Cowdray Park polo club's prize, the Doller Cup, at Ambersham, yesterday with a 7-6 victory over Roger Whewell's Innerwick, based on Ascot Park (John Watson writes).

Indio, Lucas White's team, pivoted on the all-England seven-galler, Alan Kent, who is noted for his long hitting. Three penalty conversions from Kent's mallet in the first chukka gave Indio a lead which they were not to surrender until the second half of this encounter. The third chukka opened at 3-1 in their favour.

The match was notable for the presence in opposition of the Wade brothers Jonny, Kent No.2, for Indio, and Adrian, who was positioned at No.3 for Innerwick. A goal by Adrian drew Innerwick level in the third chukka at 4-4.

Le Hardy, the Innerwick Back who scored three goals overall, made the tally 5-5 to close the penultimate chukka. Innerwick took the lead for the first time in the last, but Kent knocked home two more, including a fine 60-yarder, to seal Indio's triumph.

INDIO's: The Hon L White (1); 2, J Wade (4); 3, Kent (7); Back, A Houston (11); Andrew (12); R Whewell (13); 2, G Osano (14); 3, Wade (15); Back, J in Hardy (16).

Pizza of the cricket world leaves warm glow

It was a struggle, through the heat, through the discomfort of being eight months pregnant, but foraging around the West End for tickets for the Texaco Trophy one-day cricket international at the Oval proved to be a reasonable and necessary warm-up for the match itself.

Armed with a pair of £30 tickets that had each cost £90, three carrier bags of picnic food and drink, two cushions and a hat, we set off for Vauxhall. Taking the car was unwise but, then having a car in central London is unwise. Luckily, a piece of wide pavement with no clamping warnings sprang up out of nowhere and, with the guilty air of someone who has pocketed a tangerine found in the gutter, we left the Nissan there.

We were close to the Oval but unfortunately unaware of just how close we were to our entry gate and proceeded to walk right the way around the ground when we had been just yards from the Gover stand.

The queue was 50 metres long and slow, which gave us ample time to memorise the phum-viced tannoy recording that tickets had all been sold (no kidding, rowdiness would not be tolerated and

excessive amounts of alcohol were prohibited. Excessive in this instance translated as sufficient to start up an offence, for crates of Foster's were being easily dragged in by the barmy army.

I gawped. A few weeks earlier I had had to plead with a policeman to allow me to take my small plastic bottle of Evian into Selhurst Park. "I'm in the press box and I'm heavily pregnant and it's so hot," just about convinced the officer that my drink would not end up striking the back of a goalkeeper's head.

It was very warm on Friday and everyone seemed to be downing copious amounts of alcohol with no side-effects

Alyson Rudd enjoys the good humour and assorted company of a day out at the Oval

whatsoever. Indeed the good humour of the supporters was one of the day's highlights. Fledgling on the boundary laughed at the jokes and there was not a missile in sight.

All the while, air hostess look-alikes kept trying to foist airline-style food into our laps. It gradually dawned on us that we might, through the seedy, mysterious workings of the ticket-agency system,

have bought corporate hospitality tickets. They were a motley crew - mobile phone-hugging wide boys, ladies dressed like the mother of the bride, and mildly hysterical West Indians. "Respect, respect," demanded one such gentleman as he held aloft photographs of Brian Lara.

Still, at least this group of corporately-entertained spectators were, at all times, in their seats. On my first visit to Lord's a few years back, I was staggered at how much time people spent winning and dining indoors, boasting how much they loved cricket yet dawdling over coffee and mints when there was a perfectly decent Test match going on outside. Cricket is not my first love, by any means, but it hits corporate chit-chat for a six.

The one-day international is the pizza of the cricket world. It is quick, tasty and satisfying, leaves the connoisseur cold, and is rarely memorable. But it is still cricket, and England's ponderous, if astute, opening overs, were gently rocking me to sleep as the sun slowly singed my skin. Why, oh why, had all the tannoy announcements not warned us about sunstroke?

Suddenly, the atmosphere changed. The West Indies

began to field more spectacularly. Michael Atherton just missed out on a century and Neil Fairbrother rekindled my Lancashire pride. Later, after Peter Martin's impressive bowling performance on his debut, that pride was positively bursting. Sitting next to an ardent Yorkshire supporter helped. "Gough, now he'll want Lara and he'll get Lara," he said. My Lancashire lad did for him instead.

Still, Lara's dismissal diluted the excitement somewhat. I had expected him to hit at least 32 sixes and break Vivian Richards's 189 not out record. I needed a cup of tea to keep me going through the West Indies' valiant, if uninspiring, fightback. The tea was 80p and disgusting but then I was probably the only person at the Oval who had ever bought one judging by the look on the caterer's face.

Other facilities were satisfactory and queuing was unnecessary, if you timed your sorties right. Quite why 30 people all needed to use the phone boxes at four o'clock, though, I'll never know.

All in all, it was a match worth telling your folks about when you got home, but not so good that it could not wait until the after-sun lotion had been applied.

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Funnell completes faultless display

By JENNY MACARTHUR

PIPPA FUNNELL, the 1992 national champion, won the Britanny Feries Windsor International Horse Trials yesterday after leading the event from start to finish on Ann Burner's outstanding six-year-old, Designer Tramp.

Funnell, 26, whose husband William is an international show jumper, completed three days of faultless competition with a clear round in the show jumping. Didier Seguret, of France, competing in his eighteenth - and last - three-day event with the heroic Newlot, now 16, retained second place. Philip Surl achieved his best result at this level with third place on Jan Whitworth's Cockey Kontiki.

Designer Tramp, described by Funnell as "some machine", is a grandson of Bustino through his sire, Trampier. Hunted as a four-year-old with the Crawley and Horsham his able jumping and easy gallop were seen to thrilling effect in the cross-country on Saturday, where he was one of only eight in his section to finish within the time. Funnell's concern now is to find a sponsor for the horse in case the owner is tempted to sell.

Earlier, Polly Gowers, from Stone-on-the-Wold, achieved her first three-day event win when she held on to her overnight lead in the national section with a clear round on the Irish-bred seven-year-old, I'm A Believer.

Gowers, 27, relegated Terry Boon, the Young Riders European silver medal-winner, to second place on Right On Top. She attributed her improvement in the sport to dressage lessons from the international rider, Carl Hester.

Lucy Wieggersma, the daughter of the Cornwall-based former Badminton rider, Henry Wieggersma, won the British junior championship after Katherine Duckitt and Joe Brown, the overnight leaders, incurred ten faults in the show jumping.

The cello-playing Wieggersma, 18, has been a member of the British junior team for the past two years. One of six clear inside the time in her section on the Jonathan Warr-designed cross-country course on Saturday, she describes Shaaboo, a nine-year-old by Shaab, as "much more than a junior horse".

British runners acquit themselves well in European competition

Pelder edged out at Longchamp

By OUR RACING STAFF

PELDER failed by only a short head to deliver his second group one success of the season in the nine-furlong Prix D'Espahan at Longchamp yesterday. In a driving finish, the Crisp-trained Green Tune, the 8-5 favourite, snatched the near-£50,000 first prize to deny Pelder's trainer, Paul Kelleway, another notable triumph.

After seeing the verdict go against Pelder, Anthony Kelleway, representing his rain, rued the fact that the rain had blown away too soon to turn the ground soft. "It might just have slowed Green Tune down enough for us to win," he said.

Pat Eddery also felt that events had conspired against Pelder, offering the view that their outside draw, as opposed to Green Tune's inside berth along the rails, had made the difference between victory and defeat.

Green Tune will miss the mid-season programme in Europe to be rested for a return to a mile in the Prix Jacques Le Marois at Deauville in August. Pelder, however, has more immediate targets and will step up to 1 1/2 miles for either the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth

both Diamond Stakes at Ascot or the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud. Both races are in July.

Frankie Dettori, who had won on Pelder in last month's Prix Ganay, was claimed for John Gosden's Del Deya but, after starting slowly, the combination finished a remote last of nine. The Godolphin-owned Flagbird, the other British runner, finished sixth.

Luso, trained by Clive Brittain and ridden by Michael Kinane, headed a British clean sweep of the first four places in the £234,439 Derby Italiano at the Capannelle, Rome, yesterday. The son of Salse, adding to his victory in the Dalham Hall Chester Vase earlier this month, won by 1 1/2 lengths from Court Of Honour with Precede third and Balliol Boy fourth. The remaining two British challengers, Anchor Clever and Royal Scimitar, ninth and tenth respectively.

Brittain, who won the Derby Italiano with Hailstorm in 1991 and took second with Luso's half-brother, Needle Gun, two years ago, said: "Luso is an improving type and when they continue to progress who can tell how far they will go? The Irish Derby may be his next target."

Peter Chapple-Hyam confirmed that Court Of Honour will not run in the Epsom Derby.

The British challenge was less prominent in the £17,730 Premio Alessandro Perrone over 5 1/2 furlongs when Jack Berry's Mystique Smile, the mount of John Carroll, finished last of seven behind Pappa.

Alderbrook, the Champion Hurdle winner, delighted his trainer, Julie Cecil, with his three-quarters of a length second to Freedom Cry, trained by André Fabre, in the Grosser Preis der Wirtschaft over 11 furlongs at Baden-Baden yesterday.

Given that it was only decided to run him for the £65,844 prize on Friday, Alderbrook excelled himself after something of a rushed preparation. Nor was his cause helped by carrying a group one penalty, and therefore 2lb more than he should have done, for winning the Champion Hurdle.

Mrs Cecil said: "It was our mistake but I don't think it made the difference between winning and losing." Alderbrook's programme will be governed by the going and he will run wherever the ground is soft.



Kelleway was narrowly denied victory at Longchamp

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S EIGHT MEETINGS

Haydock Park

Going good to soft.
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Bank Holiday cricket is here again but players find nostalgia isn't what it used to be, says Tony Dawe



Playing the part: Batsman in his whites at Wimborne St Giles, Dorset, in 1972, in an era before the league results mattered



Village idyll: playing at Wimborne St Giles, where matting has replaced the original grass wicket

Batting for village pride

As the England team recovers today from the tough one-day series with the West Indies, many thousands of cricketers will be putting on their whites for less traumatic and probably more enjoyable encounters.

For Spring Bank Holiday Monday is one of the biggest days of the year for village cricket. In the north it is traditionally local derby day with neighbouring teams baring it out in a more aggressive manner than down south where many villages will be entertaining wandering sides in the style of A. G. Macdonell's hilarious cricket match in *England, Their England*.

At Forest Green in Surrey, in an idyllic setting across the common from the pub, the village club is staging a special match to mark its centenary. In the hills above the ground, I shall be playing in Coldharbour's village cricket festival on a small, almost square pitch surrounded by pine trees.

In these highly competitive, high-tech times, the sight of 22 ill-assorted, mostly unfit men gathering in the countryside to play sport might seem an anachronism. Yet nearly 250 years after it was first played on Hambledon Down in Hampshire, village cricket is thriving as never before.

One reason is that many clubs have responded to the increasingly competitive edge of younger players by joining leagues. "Some village sides have found that they cannot get a full team together unless they are in a competition," says David Franklin of the Club Cricket Conference, which has 2,200 member clubs in the southern half of England. So while Sundays might be the day for carefree cricket, some more tactical play can be seen on many village greens on a Saturday.

The national village championship is in its 24th year and attracts 650 teams from Cornwall to Caithness who vie for a place in the final at Lord's of this knock-out competition. Scores more cup competitions take place at local level.

The National Lottery has also provided a boost for village cricket, with small clubs receiving some of the first handouts for sporting organisations; among them, Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, which has been given £9,267 towards the £26,000 cost of a new pavilion.

that their approaches have been ignored, but they may have lacked persistence or been unavailable to play on the days they were needed.

"One of the best ways to start playing village cricket is to turn up on a Sunday, meet the captain and see if there are any vacancies in the coming weeks," says Tim Brocklehurst of *The Cricketer* magazine. "Many clubs have endless trouble trying to raise a team, with a frantic captain ringing around all week, and are only too grateful to welcome new players."

An important hint, however, is to be honest in assessing your own ability. Cricketing "rabbits" can be spotted easily. If you are a complete novice, explain that you want to learn the game from scratch and then your mistakes may be forgiven and your successes applauded.

Many clubs do, of course, hold mid-week practice sessions in their cricket nets which give new players the chance to try out their skills and receive coaching. Some village sides also arrange winter nets in cricket schools and leisure centres.

Eager to woo youngsters who might get little chance to play cricket at schools, clubs are also running colts sides, with older players providing the coaching and organisation. Newdigate, another small Surrey village, has arranged 60 colts fixtures for different age groups this summer.

Freuchie, a successful village side in Fife, runs teams for under-13s, under-15s and under-18s, plus a women's team. When youngsters reach the first team, the game becomes very serious, especially as Freuchie has an enviable record in cup competitions to defend. "There is only one excuse for not playing on a Saturday or Sunday," says Alan Duncan, a leading member. "And that is if you are going to a funeral. But it must be your own!"



Wimborne St Giles, Dorset, is one of many villages to have revived teams disbanded during or after the Second World War. Local cricketers prepared a new pitch in the park "behind the big house" belonging to Lord Shaftesbury — where our pictures were taken in 1972 — and still play there, although the time and cost of maintaining a grass wicket has now forced them to play on matting.

If there has been one criticism of the game, it is that cliques have taken control. Some people interested in playing village cricket feel

MOST village teams possess a club bag containing essential but often well-worn kit. If you want to buy your own, seek out a specialist sports shop for the best prices.

English willow bats cost from £50, canvas batting pads from £18, with easy-clean imitation leather ones starting at £25 a pair. You can obtain a pair of batting gloves for £10 but if you value your fingers it could be worth spending an extra £10 for the better protection of more sophisticated pairs. That most essential of items, a protector or "box", costs £2.99.

WHAT YOU NEED

To avoid looking like a novice, you need to turn out in whites. Prices can vary enormously but Surrey-based Fordham Sports says elasticated trousers are available from £16.99 and shirts from £12. Special cricket boots are advisable to protect your feet from the hard ball and to prevent slipping and cost £25 for a leather pair.

To find clubs in your area, start by checking your local newspaper for information. Otherwise, call the Club Cricket Conference (0181-949 4001) or *The Cricketer* (01892 740256) for advice.

The biggest biking event in the calendar

Practice time from the heart

IF YOU noticed an unusual number of cyclists out on the road this Bank Holiday weekend it would not be surprising. They were probably some of the 27,000 riders in the British Heart Foundation's London to Brighton Bike Ride practising for the event, now only three weeks away.

The 58-mile ride is the largest cycling event in the calendar and celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. Most of those taking part enter as individuals, but there is a lot of encouragement to enter teams, with several trophies on offer. These do not go to the fastest riders, speed is not the prime factor. They go to those who raise the most money in sponsorship.

This year for the first time there is a Family Challenge Trophy on offer in addition to those for individuals, club teams and company teams. A team of 12 riders from *The Times* will be entering the event which raised more than £1 million towards research into heart disease last year. This includes examining heart defects in babies, improving artificial heart-valve materials and advising sufferers from congenital conditions. The Club Challenge Trophy is open to groups of up to 50 riders from clubs, pubs or schools. In 1994 the winners raised more than £6,000.

The three Company Challenge

trophy are for small teams of two to 10 riders; medium teams of 11 to 50 riders and large teams of 51 to 100 riders. One of the largest teams, with 85 cyclists, comes from the Duracell battery company in Crawley, Sussex. They are drawn from all levels of staff including board directors.

The telecommunications company, Telematics, from Basingstoke, Hampshire, taking part for the third year running, has entered a 20-strong team. One of their first-time riders Lucy Lubbock, 25, a marketing assistant, says: "We thought it would be a great day out and a chance to enjoy the ride together."

Among those in a team from Boots is John Rutledge, 36, who suffered a heart attack just one year ago. He has fully recovered and cycles 45 miles a week as regular exercise needed to ward off further trouble.

"I enjoy cycling and since my heart attack appreciate the need for good diet and exercise. I feel healthier and fitter since making the changes in my lifestyle," he says.

There will also be 25 riders who won late places in *The Times* lucky-draw competition for entry to the ride, and two of them will be riding the brand new mountain bikes offered as prizes.

ALAN COPPS



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Third party liable to beneficiaries for loss in breach of trust

Royal Brunei Airlines Sdn Bhd v Tan

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Auld, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Steyn and Sir John May (Judgment May 24)

A third party who assisted a trustee to commit a breach of trust, or procured him to do so, was liable to the beneficiaries for the resulting loss provided that the third party had acted dishonestly and not merely negligently. However, it was not necessary for the conduct of the trustee to have been dishonest or fraudulent.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held in allowing an appeal by the appellant, Royal Brunei Airlines Sdn Bhd, from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of Brunei Darussalam allowing an appeal by the respondent, Philip Tan Kok Ming, from the judgment of the Chief Justice, Sir Denis Roberts, in the High Court where by the respondent had been ordered to pay the appellant the amount owed by Borneo Leisure Travel Sdn Bhd (BLT) to the appellant.

Mr Michael Bellotti, QC, Mr Raymond Lam, of the Brunei Bar, and Mr Murray Hunt, for the appellant; Mr Daljit Singh Sandhu and Mr Geoffrey Sim, both of the Brunei Bar, for the respondent.

LORD NICHOLLS said that the proper role of equity in commercial transactions was a topical question. Increasingly plaintiffs had recourse to equity for an effective remedy when the person in default, typically a company, was insolvent.

Plaintiffs sought to obtain relief from others who were involved in the transaction, such as directors of the company, or its bankers, or its legal or other advisers, and to have them held personally liable for assisting the company in breaches of trust or fiduciary obligations.

An insolvent travel agent company owed money to the appellant airline, which sought a remedy against the company's principal director and shareholder.

Its claim was based on the dictum of Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor, in *Barnes v Addy* (1874) LR 9 Ch App 244, 251-252: "trustees are not to be made constructive trustees merely because they act as the agents of trustees in transactions... unless those agents receive and become chargeable with some part of the trust property, or unless they assist with knowledge in a dishonest and fraudulent design on the part of the trustees."

The first limb was concerned with the liability of a person as a recipient of trust property or its proceeds, and the second limb with the liability of a person as an accessory to a trustee's breach of trust. The appellant relied on the accessory limb.

In 1986 the appellant appointed BLT to act, in Sarawak and Sarawak, as its general travel agent for the sale of passenger and cargo transportation. BLT was required to account to the appellant for all amounts received from such sales, and BLT was a trustee for the appellant of the money.

It was not paid into a separate bank account but into BLT's current account and used for its own business purposes. The respondent was BLT's managing director and principal shareholder. He was effectively in charge and control of BLT.

BLT's payments fell into arrears and the appellant terminated the agreement. The appellant commenced its action against the respondent in respect of the unpaid money.

The Chief Justice upheld a claim that the respondent was liable as a constructive trustee, under the accessory limb of Lord Selborne's formulation. The Court of Appeal allowed the respondent's appeal.

The issue was whether the breach of trust which was a prerequisite to accessory liability had to be itself a dishonest and fraudulent breach of trust by the trustee.

His Lordship referred to *Fyler v Fyler* (1841) 3 Beav 550; *Attorney-General v Corporation of Telescel* (1844) 7 Beav 176; *Attorney-General v Wilson* (1851) 30 Beav 130; *Barnes v Addy* (1874) LR 9 Ch App 244; and *Powell v Thompson* (1891) 1 NZLR

397 and continued that the starting point for any analysis had to be to consider the extreme possibility that a third party who did not receive trust property ought never to be liable directly to the beneficiaries merely because he assisted the trustee to commit a breach of trust or procured him to do so. That possibility could be dismissed summarily.

The other extreme possibility could also be rejected. That was the case where a third party dealt with a trustee without knowing, or having any reason to suspect that he was a trustee, or being so aware had no reason to know or suspect that his transaction was inconsistent with the terms of the trust. The law had never given a beneficiary a remedy against a non-recipient third party in such circumstances.

Given that in some circumstances a third party might be liable as a constructive trustee, the next step was to seek to identify the touchstone of liability. Dishonesty fulfilled that role.

Whether, in addition, negligence would suffice was an issue on which there had been a well known difference of judicial opinion. After referring to numerous authorities His Lordship said that in the context of accessory liability acting dishonestly, or with a lack of probity, which was synonymous with the liability of an accessory, meant simply not acting as an honest person in the circumstances. That was an objective standard.

Honesty had a strong subjective element in that it was a description of a type of conduct assessed in the light of what a person actually knew at the time, as distinct from what a reasonable person would have known or appreciated.

Honesty and its counterpart dishonesty were mostly concerned with inadvertent conduct. Carelessness was not dishonesty. For the most part dishonesty was to be equated with conscious impropriety.

Those subjective characteristics of honesty did not mean that individuals were free to set their own standards of honesty in particular circumstances. The standard of what constituted honest conduct was not subjective. Honesty was not an optional scale, with higher or lower values according to the moral standards of each individual.

In most situations there was little difficulty in identifying how an honest person would behave. Honest people did not intentionally deceive others to their detriment or knowingly take others' property.

Unless there was a very good and compelling reason, an honest person did not participate in a transaction if he knew it involved a misapplication of trust assets to the detriment of the beneficiaries. Nor did an honest person in such a case close his eyes and ears, or deliberately not ask questions, lest he learn something he

would rather not know, and then proceed regardless.

However, the position was not always so straightforward. Acting in reckless disregard of others' rights or possible rights could be a tell-tale sign of dishonesty. Ultimately, in most cases, an honest person should have little difficulty in knowing whether a proposed transaction, or his participation in it, would offend the normally accepted standards of honest conduct.

When called upon to decide whether a person was acting honestly, a court would look at all the circumstances known to the third party at the time and also have regard to his personal attributes such as his experience and intelligence, and the reason why he acted as he did.

To inquire whether a person dishonestly assisted in what was later held to be a breach of trust was to ask a meaningful question capable of being given a meaningful answer. That was not always so if the question was posed in terms of "knowingly" assisted. "Knowingly" was inapt as a criterion when applied to the gradually darkening spectrum where the differences were of degree and not kind.

Should an honest third party who received no trust property be liable if he procured or assisted in a breach of trust of which he would have been aware of the breach, exercised reasonable diligence?

Should he be liable to the beneficiaries for the loss they suffered from the breach of trust? The majority of persons falling into that category would be people who acted for trustees in various ways and who would be accountable to the trustees for their conduct. For the most part they would owe to the trustees a duty to exercise reasonable skill and care and the rights flowing from that duty could be enforced by the beneficiaries in a reasonable case. It was difficult to identify a compelling reason why in addition the third parties should also owe a duty of care directly to the beneficiaries.

There were others who dealt with trustees if they had not accepted, and the law had not imposed upon them, any such duties in favour of the trustees, it was difficult to discern a good reason why they should nevertheless owe such duties to the beneficiaries.

Where third parties were acting for, or dealing with, dishonest trustees the question was whether the third parties owed a duty of care to the beneficiaries. In effect, check that a trustee was not misbehaving.

Their Lordships considered that dishonesty was an essential ingredient here. There might be cases where, in the light of the particular facts, a third party would owe a duty of care to the beneficiaries.

As a general proposition, however, beneficiaries could not reasonably expect that all the world dealing with their trustees should owe them a duty to take care lest the trustees were behaving dishonestly.

Their Lordships' overall conclusion was that dishonesty was a necessary ingredient of accessory liability. It was also a sufficient ingredient.

A liability in equity to make good resulting loss attached to a person who dishonestly procured or assisted in a breach of trust or fiduciary obligation. It was not necessary that, in addition, the trustee or fiduciary was acting dishonestly.

"Knowingly" was better avoided as a defining ingredient of the principle, and in the context of the principle the scale of knowledge referred to in *Baden v Société Générale pour Favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France SA* (Note) [1993] 1 WLR 509 was best forgotten.

It followed that the appeal succeeded. BLT committed a breach of trust by using in the conduct of its business money held in trust for the appellant.

The respondent accepted that he had knowingly assisted in that breach of trust. His conduct was dishonest.

Solicitors: Norton Rose; Denton Hall.

Emergency Act export ban orders valid

Regina v Blackledge

Regina v Grechan

Regina v Mason

Regina v Phillips

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Tucker and Mr Justice Forbes (Judgment May 22)

As the emergency of World War II had not been declared to have ended by an order in council under section 9(3) of the Import, Export and Customs Powers (Defence) Act 1939, the Export of Goods (Control) Orders (SI 1987 No 2070) and (SI 1989 No 2376), made under section 1(1) of the 1939 Act, were not ultra vires or invalid.

The Court of Appeal so held when giving a reserved judgment dismissing appeals by four appellants prosecuted at Reading Crown Court (Judge Spence) on February 25, 1992, for contravening the 1987 and 1989 Orders. The four, on remand, pleaded guilty to conspiracy knowingly to be concerned in the exportation of goods with intent to evade the prohibition on exportation of them.

The prosecution concerned, in count 1, the exportation of an assembly line for an artillery fuse to Iraq, and in count 2, the exportation of sub-assemblies and sets of components for the fuses.

William Stuart Blackledge, a project engineer, pleaded guilty to count 1 and was sentenced to six months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months. John Paul Grechan, managing director of Ordnance Technologies Ltd (Ordnatec), the business of which included the transfer of defence technology, pleaded guilty to

counts 1 and 2 and was sentenced to prison for one year on each count, concurrent, suspended for 18 months.

Brian Albert Mason, technical manager of Ordnatec, pleaded guilty to both counts and was sentenced to nine months imprisonment on each, suspended for 18 months.

Colin William Phillips, director of a shipping company, E. C. Transport, used by Ordnatec, and involved in the shipping arrangements for the assembly lines, was fined £1,000 payable within six months with 30 days imprisonment in default.

Section 1 of the 1939 Act provides: "(1) The Board of Trade may by order make such provisions as the board think expedient for prohibiting or regulating, in all cases or any specified classes of cases, and subject to any such exceptions as may be made by or under the order, the importation into or exportation from the United Kingdom..."

Section 9 provides: "(3) This Act shall continue in force until such date as His Majesty may by order in council declare to be the date on which the emergency that was the basis of the passing of this Act came to an end, and shall then expire..."

Mr Anthony Morris, QC, and Mr Christopher Melton for Blackledge; Mr Peter W. Clarke for Grechan; Mr Jan A. Macdonald, QC, for Phillips; Mr Edmund Lawrence, QC, Mr Stephen Kramer, QC and Mr Stephen Richards for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that initially the grounds of appeal were confined to the merits and applications to the full court

were made concerning disclosure in March 1993, in July 1993 and again on April 6, 1994, on the date leave to appeal had been granted.

By that time a fresh ground of appeal had been conceived, which raised a point of law. It was decided to consider that point as a discrete issue and argument was heard on May 2. The legal issue concerned the validity and vires of the 1987 and 1989 Orders.

At that time the powers under section 1(1) of the 1939 Act, which were vested in the Secretary of State for Trade but the crux of the appellants' argument was the purpose and duration of the powers.

It was common ground that the emergency which was the occasion of enactment was the imminence of the Second World War.

Parliament had had several opportunities to repeal the 1939 Act but had not done so. In 1990, Parliament went further and in the Import and Export Control Act 1990, the sole provision of which was the repeal of section 9(3) of the 1939 Act, thereby leaving in place the other provisions of that Act, and in particular section 1(1), without any curb on their duration.

Parliament had clearly seen and had continued to see "the emergency" as a less finite concept than "a state of war".

Willcock v Mauché (1951) 2 KB 848 held that each time the government in council to bring it to an end and that different considerations might apply as between one Act and another.

The argument of Mr Richards

was correct. In the absence of an order in council under section 9(3), the 1939 Act remained in force and it was lawful to exercise the powers under it.

The argument that the powers of the 1939 Act had lapsed despite the absence of an order in council pursuant to section 9(3) could not be sustained.

Without developing the point at length, their Lordships considered that the appellants' challenge to the validity of the 1987 and 1989 Orders in criminal proceedings ran counter to the principle stated by Lord Justice Woolf in *Bagge v DPP* (1993) QB 473 where he distinguished between a permissible challenge in criminal proceedings to the substantive validity of an instrument, a bylaw in that case, and an impermissible challenge to what he called its procedural validity.

In the present case on the face of the instruments they were validly made pursuant to powers contained in an unreppealed statute.

Their Lordships considered that the present challenge to the validity of the 1987 and 1989 Orders, a challenge not made at the trial or indeed for a period of three years during the protracted appeal proceedings, had to fail.

Their Lordships added that their decision on the discrete point of statutory construction in no way excluded or pre-empted the appellants' entitlement to argue other grounds on the basis of documents disclosed or otherwise available to them.

Solicitors: John Budd & Co, Blackpool; Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield; Simons Muirhead & Burton; Preston & Redman, Bournemouth; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Starke and Another v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Ward (Judgment May 19)

"Agricultural property" defined in section 115 of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984 as meaning "agricultural land or pasture" was not in virtue of the definition of "land" in the Interpretation Act 1978 to include "buildings and other structures".

A farmhouse, outbuildings and fenced enclosures on a two-and-a-half acre site formerly occupied by the deceased for agricultural purposes was not within the definition and did not qualify for relief from the tax under section 116 of the 1984 Act.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by the executors of the estate of Wilfred Brown from the decision of Mr Justice Blackburne (The Times February 24, 1994) that the estate was entitled to a deduction of 20% in the value of the estate for agricultural property.

Section 115 of the 1984 Act, formerly the Capital Transfer Tax Act 1984, provided that a deduction of 20% in the value of the estate was available for agricultural property, namely "agricultural land or pasture" referred to in section 115(2) to include woodland and certain types of buildings, limited as therein specified, so that the Interpretation Act definition was not applicable.

The starting point was to consider the inclusions, prima facie, required to be made by section 5 of the Interpretation Act to the word "land" when used in section 115(2). Plainly that definition was not excluded in its entirety for otherwise land covered with water, for example the farm or sward pond, would not be included.

The real question thus was whether the definition of agricultural property in section 115(2) showed an intention that the word "land" should not include "buildings and other structures".

The matter relied on by the judge was that as pasture was bare uncultivated land and was a part of a composite expression the agricultural land referred to had also to be bare land. But that could not be accepted.

It was common for pasture to include buildings for the storage of winter feed or to provide shelter. Neither by itself nor in conjunction with the word "pasture" could "agricultural land" be read as bare land.

Thus the intention that "building and other structures" should be included in the definition of agricultural property was clear. The second part of the definition or the Act. The second part was of no assistance.

property means agricultural land or pasture and includes woodland and any building used in connection with the intensive rearing of livestock or fish if the woodland or building is occupied with agricultural land or pasture and the occupation is ancillary to that of the agricultural land or pasture and also includes such cottages, farm buildings and farmhouses, together with the land occupied with them as of a character appropriate to the property."

By section 5 of, and Schedule 1 to the Interpretation Act 1976 "... unless the contrary intention appears, the words in this Act shall be construed as follows: (1) the word 'building' includes any structure, land covered with water, and any estate... in or over land."

Mr Gordon Apsion for the executors; Mr Michael Furness for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that the sole question was whether the property fell within the first part of the section 115(2) definition, namely "agricultural land or pasture".

The Crown's submission that had appealed to the judge was that the primary meaning of agricultural property, namely "agricultural land or pasture" referred to bare land used for the cultivation of crops or the grazing of animals which was extended by the second and third parts of section 115(2) to include woodland

and certain types of buildings, limited as therein specified, so that the Interpretation Act definition was not applicable.

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Thus the intention that "building and other structures" should be included in the definition of agricultural property was clear. The second part of the definition or the Act. The second part was of no assistance.

Finally, he submitted that because the grant of the decree absolute was the product of a mistake, it should be treated as voidable rather than void.

In his Lordship's judgment, a distinction had to be drawn between cases in which the court lacked jurisdiction, because it had no power to grant a decree absolute in the circumstances in which it had purported to do so, and cases in which though the court enjoyed jurisdiction it had through the inadvertence of one of the parties failed to observe a statutory provision against the exercise of it, or there had been a procedural irregularity in the process of exercising it. The present case fell within the former category.

In addition, the failure to serve a summons on the wife in accordance with rule 2.50 of the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247) rendered the decree absolute null and void, and the wife was entitled to have it set aside. The jurisdictional and fundamental procedural irregularities were both fatal.

Mr Justice Thorpe gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Collyer-Bristow; Singh Virji & Co, Hounslow.

Decree absolute was a nullity

Manchanda v Manchanda

Before Lord Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Thorpe (Judgment May 17)

A husband's decree absolute of divorce was a nullity, not merely voidable, because the court purporting to grant it had lacked jurisdiction to make the order as it was made in contravention of the time provisions laid down in section 9(2) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Donna Manchanda against the refusal of Judge Hague, QC, at Brentford County Court on October 7, 1994 to set aside the decree absolute purportedly granted to her husband, Keith Manchanda.

Mr Timothy Scott, QC, for the wife; Mr Paul McCormick for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that a decree nisi of divorce had been granted to the wife on July 27, 1994. On September 16, 1994 her husband applied for a decree absolute and on September 20, 1994 the decree had been made absolute.

The wife had applied to set aside the decree absolute on the ground that the necessary period of time under section 9(2) of the 1973 Act had not elapsed before the application was made and that no notice of it had been given to her.

There were contested ancillary relief proceedings and the financial arrangements for the wife might be affected by the decree absolute if it had been resolved. It was not suggested that the husband had been fraudulent.

On September 29, 1994 he had gone through a ceremony of marriage with another woman.

The judge had inferred from *McPherson v McPherson* (1936) AC 177 that because a decree absolute was a judgment in rem

affecting third parties, such a decree was voidable, not void. That had emboldened him to grant the decree. The court should only set aside something as void if the error or its adverse consequences, unless treated as void ab initio, would be very severe. A judgment in rem because it involved the rights and interests of third parties should for that reason alone be treated as voidable rather than void.

He submitted that if an error went to the start or the root of a proceeding or undertaking it should be treated as void, whereas if it only went to timeable or procedure or formalities within or during such undertaking or proceeding it should be treated as voidable. Since a decree absolute was a species of court order, failure to comply with it should be treated as voidable, since if it were void it could be treated as a nullity and ignored. The decree absolute was a consequential or derivative step which should not be treated as void where, as here, the decree nisi was valid.

He contended that it was for the wife to show the mischief which the relevant legislation was designed to avoid, and that she had failed to show any such serious mischief as would justify or necessitate holding the decree absolute

void. Finally, he submitted that because the grant of the decree absolute was the product of a mistake, it should be treated as voidable rather than void.

In his Lordship's judgment, a distinction had to be drawn between cases in which the court lacked jurisdiction, because it had no power to grant a decree absolute in the circumstances in which it had purported to do so, and cases in which though the court enjoyed jurisdiction it had through the inadvertence of one of the parties failed to observe a statutory provision against the exercise of it, or there had been a procedural irregularity in the process of exercising it. The present case fell within the former category.

In addition, the failure to serve a summons on the wife in accordance with rule 2.50 of the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247) rendered the decree absolute null and void, and the wife was entitled to have it set aside. The jurisdictional and fundamental procedural irregularities were both fatal.

Mr Justice Thorpe gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Collyer-Bristow; Singh Virji & Co, Hounslow.

Proving excise licence offence

Department of Transport v Ladd

In establishing the offence of failing to deliver up an excise licence when required to do so subsequent to the cheque tendered in payment of the duty payable being dishonoured, pursuant to section 102(3) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979, it was sufficient for the prosecution to prove that a notice requiring the defendant to deliver up the licence was sent to him by letter sent by registered post or recorded delivery and addressed to him at the address given by him when applying for the licence, as laid down in section 102(2). It was not necessary also to prove that the notice was actually brought to the attention of the defendant.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Mitchell) so held on May 16 in allowing an appeal by way of case stated brought by the Department of Transport against

registered post or recorded delivery and addressed to him at the address given by him when applying for the licence, as laid down in section 102(2). It was not necessary also to prove that the notice was actually brought to the attention of the defendant.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Mitchell) so held on May 16 in allowing an appeal by way of case stated brought by the Department of Transport against

a decision of Knightsbridge Crown Court (Judge B. L. Charles, QC and Justices) allowing an appeal by Samuel Ladd against his conviction by William Street Justices of an offence under section 102(3).

Correction

In *Ken Lane Transport Ltd v North Yorkshire County Council* (The Times May 22) Mr Simon Hawkesworth, QC and Mr Andrew Goodman were instructed by Harland & Co, York.

Subjective test for assessment period

Kelsall (Inspector of Taxes) v Stippelchoide Ltd

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Saville (Judgment May 17)

The statutory formula in section 247(8) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 "where it appears to the inspector that the beginning or end of any accounting period... is uncertain..." imported a subjective, not an objective, test.

Where therefore the Crown was unable to demonstrate that the particular inspector had in fact been uncertain as to the terminal date of an accounting period, it could not invoke section 247(8) to revise the accounting period nor the assessment in respect of it.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the taxpayer Stippelchoide Ltd, from Mr Justice Vinelott (The Times November 11, 1992, 1992) STC 109 who had allowed the Crown's appeal from the special commissioner and had concluded that the company's assessment in respect of corporation tax for a specified accounting year could be revised under section 247(8).

Mr Leolin Price, QC, for the company; Mr Philip Vallance, QC and Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that on the plain wording of section 247(8) it had to appear to the inspector making the assessment that the end of the accounting period was uncertain. What might appear to another

inspector was irrelevant. If it so appeared to the inspector, then the assessment could not be challenged save on familiar judicial review grounds.

The formula "where it appears to [a designated person] that..." was one not infrequently found in modern legislation, particularly in relation to decisions of ministers of the Crown, and his Lordship did not doubt that it was favoured by the Crown as a way of limiting the scope of challenge to its decisions.

It was therefore both surprising and ironic that it was the Crown here which was seeking to import an objective test into that familiar subjective language. In his Lordship's view such an approach flew in the face of that language.

If authority were needed that such language imported a subjective test it was to be found, for example, in *Secretary of State for Employment v ASLEF* (No 2) (1972) 2 QB 455.

His Lordship rejected Mr Vallance's challenge to the special commissioner's finding that the inspector was not uncertain as to the end of the accounting period.

That was a clear finding by the special commissioner. By the test of certainty or uncertainty it was clear that the condition for the

operation of section 247(8) was not satisfied.

There was ample evidence before the special commissioner by which he could properly reach that conclusion. His Lordship considered it plain that the officer acting on behalf of the inspector had no doubt as to the terminal date, and it could not be said that that view was unreasonable.

Lord Justice Saville agreed and the Master of the Rolls delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Gregory Rowcliffe & Milners; Solicitor, Inland Revenue.

Term cannot be included in incorporating contract

OK Petroleum AB v Vital Energy SA

Before Mr Justice Colman (Judgment May 5)

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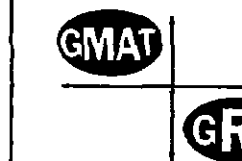
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The University invites applications, expressions of interest, nominations and suggestions for the post of Dean of the new Faculty. The Dean will lead and manage the integration of the Colleges' provision with the present University programmes to develop a Faculty which brings together the best of the three present organisations in a way which meets the future needs of the NHS and Social Services. (S)he will have responsibility for the organisation, direction and management of the Faculty and the academic leadership of its staff.

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Nominations of, or applications from, women, members of ethnic minorities and disabled people, who are under-represented at this level in the University, will be particularly welcomed.

Further particulars, which include information on professional criteria, salary and relocation expenses, to be returned by 23 June 1995, are available on request from the Head of Personnel Services, University of the West of England, Frenchay Campus, Bristol BS16 1QY Telephone (0117) 976 3810, Fax (0117) 976 3814.

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THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

The Sunday Times & The Times will be publishing the following postgraduate course features.

POSTGRADUATE WEEK SUNDAY 11TH - FRIDAY 17TH JUNE

The following 'taught' postgraduate disciplines (including course listings) will be covered in The Times throughout the week.

Sunday 11th June (General/Composite)
Monday 12th June (General/Composite), Sciences
Tuesday 13th June Engineering and Technology
Wednesday 14th June Arts and Education
Thursday 15th June Languages and Literature
Professional and Vocational
Friday 16th June Administration, Business and Social Studies

POSTGRADUATE COURSES SUPPLEMENT - MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 1995

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Sir Desmond Pitcher's exit from the pools group may herald new feuding. Sarah Bagnall reports

The group is in urgent need of decisive leadership as it faces fierce competition in all

Problems may be eased slightly by the Government's decision to cut the pools betting levy from 37.5 per cent to 32.5 per cent. However, the operation is highly labour intensive compared to the high technology National Lottery. Littlewoods has 70,000 self-employed agents collecting coupons from customers' homes and a high proportion of coupons are checked by hand for winning lines. The Littlewoods retail business — 128 chain

The bid for power among Sir John's family is said to be led by his daughter, Lady Grantchester, whose son James Suenson-Taylor, 39, was at one time being groomed for

The boardroom departures started last October, when Mr Guha was sacked for meeting a journalist. Mr Dale was ousted last March for undisclosed reasons. The company now faces a demand from Mr Dale for compensation of at least £1.4 million for wrongful dismissal.

You Take Some Skins. *Radio 3, 4-30pm.*

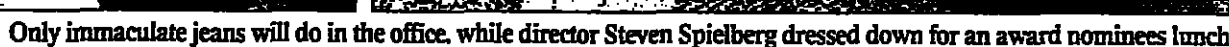
Here, Radio 4, 7.45pm.

If yours is the kind of relationship that bumps along the rocky road of misunderstanding and recrimination then you will identify with the young flat-hunting couple in Michael Frayn's comedy, *Phil and Cath* (Samuel West and Lucy Tregear) find that even words can lose their meaning as they explain their feelings for each other. Irritating? Well, yes, it can be, but Frayn makes the unbearable tolerable. Especially when he introduces a noisy and garrulous landlady (Margaret Courtenay). "There's all sorts of things you'll find out about each other as soon as there's three of you," she reassures the couple. Kenneth Gossling

Was allowing casual dress at the office really such a smart move?

According to a survey by the makers of Hush Puppies, nearly three-quarters of America's

Levi Strauss & Co. maker of jeans and the popular Dockers casual slacks, have received orders from 4,000 companies so far this year for a new video on casual business wear: 700 have also requested a fashion show or seminar. Daniel Chew, a Levi Strauss executive in San Francisco, said: "The response bowled us over." Among those seeking help



workers seize the chance to dress casually when offered it. Just over 80 per cent say it improves morale and nearly half are convinced that productivity goes up. However, a poll by the NPD Group, a retail consulting firm in New York, discovered that most employees would prefer to revert to more formal wear when talking to senior management. If one of the benefits of instituting casual dress is to underscore teamwork by eliminating symbols of authority, it is not yet widely apparent.

Many companies are going through a difficult learning curve over what they thought would be a cost-free employee

benefit. In a handful of cases, firms have given up dress-down days, saying they cause too much aggravation.

So what is acceptable informal attire for business? It depends on your line of work and whether you meet the public, said Wendy Liebmman, head of WSL Marketing. Creative types in advertising can be casual to the point of sloppiness, but sales staff calling on clients still need to be neat and well-groomed. Ms. Liebmman said that changing the workplace uniform has created a new stress of wondering if you and your boss have the same ideas about a casual wardrobe. What is

acceptable to one firm may be forbidden at another. That is why Americans find the videos and seminars so useful for setting a standard.

In abandoning suits, men usually opt for khaki slacks, knit or woven shirts, sweaters and perhaps a blazer or sports jacket. Jeans are often frowned on for both men and women unless they are immaculate. Shorts and T-shirts are out. Sweat suits and other sports or gym clothes are almost universally verboten. Ms. Lieberman said: "A good rule of thumb is if you'd wear it to wash your car or go to the beach, don't wear it to the office."

Women have many opportunities to mix and match scarves, sweaters, skirts, shirts and slacks. But there is evidence that they fuss about looking too provocative, too prissy, too casual or not casual enough. They seem to suffer greater anxiety than men about making a wrong choice that could wreck their chances of promotion. Women are more likely to iron their casual office clothes than men.

One Washington clothing shop, Britches of Georgetown, has hit on a striking way of urging the dress-down crowd not to worry too much. Its advertisements show a coffin with the words: "You're going to wear a suit for a long time. Dress comfortably while you can."

TOURIST RATES		
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia £	2.92	2.16
Austria Sch	16.70	15.20
Canada Cdn	48.94	44.04
Denmark Kr	21.00	18.88
Cyprus Cyp£	0.949	0.894
Denmark Kr	9.75	8.53
France Fr	7.41	6.78
Germany DM	2.39	2.17
Hong Kong \$	377.00	352.00
India Rupee	8.33	7.48
Ireland P	1.03	0.95
Japan Yen	5,324.98	4,574.98
Life	2725.00	12.00
Israel N	149.50	133.50
Italy Lira	0.050	0.545
Netherlands Gld	2.650	2.430
Norway Kr	10.900	9.75
Portugal Esc	246.00	227.80
Spain Ptas	166.64	154.48
Sweden Kr	27.00	18.00

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 6.00am Dave Pearce **6.00**
Breakfast with **Blur 11.00 Radio 1**
Readshow 12.00 Lisa Hanson **3.00**
Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Music Live **9.55** John
Shankland and **Freddie 10.00** in **Concert**
Special INXS 10.00 Music Live **9.55**
Banding Together 10.45 Music Live **9.55**
Mark Radcliffe 1.00am Kate Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Martin Kennedy **6.15**
Pure for **Thought 7.30** Sarah Kennedy
9.15 **Praise** for **Thought 9.30** Ken Bruce
11.30 Gloria Hunniford at **Graceland**
1.00pm The **Garden Show** **3.00** Cms
Special 3.00 Music Live **9.55** Ed Stewart
5.30 John Durr **7.30** Music Live **9.55**
An Evening with Nazaire 6.00 Unforgettable:
Tribute to Nat King Cole (t) **10.00**
Music Live 9.55 **Banding Together 10.45**
The Jamiesons 12.05am **Steve Madden**
3.00-6.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including
5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The
Realisation 6.00am **News 6.30** and
7.55 **Recovery Preview** and at **7.15**
Lawyer's Story 8.35 The Magazine, and
Euronews: Goodby, Bananas, 11.25
12.00 **News 12.05** **and** **at** **1.05** **Techno** **Cops 1.15pm** **Sport**
From **EU: football, golf, racing, tennis** **5.00**
Sports Report 5.30 **Nations**, and at
6.15 **CBS** **Update 7.00** **News 7.05**
7.35 **Fantasy Rugby 8.05** **Inside Edge**
9.35 **Q&A** **Time 10.05** **Moss** and the
Mile **Mike 11.00** **John Burt** **Essex**, and **11.15**
The Francis & Joy Tenight 12.05am
The Other Side of Midnight 2.05 **Up All**
Night, with **Rock Sharp**

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sean Bolger **10.00** **Sport**
Crimmy 1.00pm **Alan Reabum** **3.00**
Anthony Ford 7.00 **Lawrence Dee 10.00**
Conan O'Brien 11.00 **Colin**

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST**. **5.00am** **News 5.30**
Europe (MW only) **On the Shelf** **5.30**
The Streets of London 6.00 **News 6.30**
Anything Goes (MW only) **Europe 7.00**
News 7.15 **Earth, Air, Fire and Water**
7.30 **Foreign Postings 8.00** **News 8.15**
Development 9.55 **8.30** **Heritage**
News 9.00 **Only** **News 9.15** **9.30**
Faith (MW only) **News in German 9.15**
The Master Singer 10.00 **Business**
10.15 **Anything Goes 10.45** **Sport 11.00**
11.30 **SBC** **News 11.45** **5.00** **8.00**
Shelf **News 12.30am** **Ornithus**
1.00 **News (MW only)** **News in German**
1.15 **Brian Tovey 1.30** **Bent on Razzle**
1.45 **News 2.00** **5.00** **8.00** **8.30**
4.00 **News 4.05** **Sport 4.15** **SBC: English**
4.30 **Global** **Concerns (MW only)** **News**
in German 4.45 **Pop (MW only)** **News**
in German 5.00 **News 5.15** **The Master**
Singer 6.00 **News 6.15** **Opera 8.30**
World **Today (MW only)** **News in**
German 8.45 **Sport (MW only)** **News in**
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Faith 10.00 **Business 10.15** **Brian**
Tovey 10.30 **Musictrack 11.00** **News 11.30**
World Today 11.45 **Development 11.50**
Night News 12.05am **Topical**
12.15 **John Dunn 12.45** **Sport 1.00**
News 1.30 **Folk 1.45** **Brian 2.00** **News**
and Press 2.15 **That's the Cool 2.45** **Health**
3.00 **News 3.15** **On the Shelf 3.30**
Press 4.15 **Sport 4.30** **John Peel**

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** **Henry Kelly**
12.00 **Alan Freeman 2.00pm** **The**
Unrucker **Tchaikovsky's ballet 4.00pm**
John Peel 7.00pm **John Walters 8.00pm**
Evening Concert 10.00 **Mark Griffiths**
1.00am **Alan Leon**

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am **Russ** **11.00** **9.00** **Richard**
Shinner 12.00 **Graham Dee 4.00pm**
John Peel 7.00pm **John Walters 8.00pm**
Lea Garcia 12.00-6.00pm **Robin Bloor**

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University:

Performers and Secular

Aria, 6.55 *Wishes*

7.00 On Air: *Butterworth* (The

Banks of Green Willow); 7.22

Händel Handbook: *Händel*

Recorder Sonata in F, Op 1

No 1; 7.41 *Fanfare* (songs);

8.47 *Dvořák* (85)

capriccioso, Op 69

9.00 *Composers of the Week:*

The Schumanns, Music by

Georg Druschetzky, Leopold

Kozelsch and Frank Kronamer

10.00 *Musical Encounters*: With

Chris de Souza. 10.05 *Wiss*

of the West: Borodin *Quartet*

Haydn (Seven Last Words on

the Cross: Introduction);

10.10 *Beethoven* (Overture

Leonore No 1); Brahms

(Sinn *Quartet in C minor*, Op

51 No 1); *Havergal Brian*

(Symphony No 6, *Sinfonia*

Religiosa); Haydn (Seven Last

Words on the Cross: *Quartet*

I); Finger (Suite: The Spirit of

Age)

12.00 *Johns* to *Gershwin*: Sir Roy

Strong begins a six-part

series on operetta

1.00pm *Musical Live 95:*

Luxembourg Concert, from

Birmingham Town Hall

Carmena Quartet; Peter

Donohoe, piano; Haydn

Sinn Quartet in C, Op 76

No 1; *Emporgang*; (Piano

Quintet in F minor)

2.20 *The BBC Orchestra*; BBC

Socialist Symphony Orchestra

under Jerry Malsmyr

Yuzuko Horigome, violin,

Weber (Overture: *Der*

Sigurd Jorsfalar); Chausson

(Poème, Op 23); Sibelius

Symphony No 1 (minor)

3.45 *The Stations of the Cross:*

Simon Wright plays Marcel

Dupré's symphonic poem on

the origin at *Ampleforth*

Aria (1/2)

4.30 *You Take Some Skins ...*

See Choice

5.00 *The Music Machine*: Charles

Harpwood meets the pianist

Roll Hind

5.15 *In Tune*: With Andrew Green

7.30 *Musical Live 95: BBC*

Symphony Orchestra under

Andrew Davis; BBC

Symphony Chorus (women's

voices), from *Symphony Hall*,

Birmingham, Debussy (*Ibéria*,

Images); Poul Ruders

(Concerto in Feces, *Puccini*

Variations, first performance);

8.05 *A Cosmic Symphony*:

Jamie James takes the

evolution of the concept of

cosistial harmony (2/2); 8.25

Holst (Suite: The Planets)

10.20 *The Dream Project*: The film

director Alex Ross reveals the

dream cinematic project

9.40 *John Adams* The Chaimen

Dances (BBC Symphony

Orchestra under *Andrew*

Morgan)

10.00 *Musical Live 95: Banding*

Together. A simultaneous

live play on *Radio 3*, 2 and

3 of a collaboration between

Jools Holland, John

Darwin, John *Harte* and

Michael Nyman

11.45 *Mixing It*: With Mark Russell

and Robert Sordell in

Birmingham

11.30-1.00 *Ensemble*: *Chantal*

Juliet, violin; *Raphael*

Wallfish, cello; *Pascal Rogé*,

RADIO 4

5.58am Shopping Forecast 6.00 News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 7.00 7.30 8.00 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Spot 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Characteristics: Nelson Mandela 8.52 Weather	her Polish cousin, With Oona Beson, David Burke and Lyndam Gregory (f)
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Melvin Bragg and Times columnist Nigeria Nwando 9.15 With Christine Fraying, Anthony Scott, Theo Richmond and Elizabeth Wilson	3.00 The Afternoon Shift With Tony Taylor
10.00-10.30 News: With Great Pleasure (FM): Ian MacKillop introduces a poem by Thomas Hardy	4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Includes a review by Natalie Whisen of a book of fantasy stories written by her, and a look at the carmaker's latest contribution to television
10.00 Daily Service (LW only): From St George's Church, Belfast	4.45 Short Story: The Mason's Trevor Cooper reads Patrick Carroll's story
10.15 Children's BBC Radio 4: Talking Poets (LW only)	5.00 PM, with Ben Bradshaw and Linda Lewis 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.58 Weather
10.30 Woman's Hour: A programme about the lives of young, black women in Britain	6.00 Sir Clive's News
11.30 Most Confess: In this off-beat documentary, "Mr Apology", a New York artist, sells to the Academy Line a young, black woman in Britain	6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue: With Barry Cryer, Graeme Garden, Willie Rushton, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Humphrey Lytton in the chair (f)
12.00 States of Mind: You are Yours. With Richard Phillips. A study of Shenley Hospital near Reading, Berkshire, said to be demolished	7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
12.25pm Britain of Britain 1995: A nationwide general knowledge contest chaired by Robert Robinson. First round — Home Counties 12.55 Weather	7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (f)
1.00 The World as One: With Nick Clarke	7.45 The Midsomer Murders: Here, by Michael Frayn, is the latest episode
1.40 The Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast	9.15 My Kind of Trust: Third in a five-part series celebrating the centenary of the National Trust. Hunter Davies talks about his love of the Lake District
2.00 News, Amber, by Catherine Carkavaska. An English girl talks in love with Poland, and	9.30 Kaleidoscope (f) 9.58 Weather
	10.00 The World Tonight, with Lyndam Hill
	10.45 Book at Bedtime: Hemingway's Chair, written and read by Michael Palin (9/10)
	11.00 The Night Light Opening: Arthur Smith hosts a variety show of innovative comedy from the 1990s
	12.00-12.45am News and 12.47 Weather 12.53 Shipping Forecast (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 98-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198KHz 151m. **FM 92.4-94.6:** LW 198. **RADIO 5:** 603KHz 1433m. **905KHz 1330m.** **LONDON RADIO:** 1152KHz 1267m. **FM 97.3:** CAPITAL: 1549KHz 1194m. **FM 95.8:** GLF: **FM 94.9:** WORLD SERVICE. **MW 648KHz 1483m.** **FM 1980KHz 1124m.** **FM 1980KHz 1124m.** **FM 100-102:** VIRGIN: **MW-1215, 1197, 1242, 1243.** **TALK RADIO:** MW 1069, 1053KHz 1243m compiled by **PRINCE DAVE** **WESLEY**

The Higher Internet Service carries lists of universities showing their scores on assessment for research and teaching in all the disciplines for which assessments have so far been published. These lists are updated as new assessments become available. The Higher Internet Service is at:

THE TIMES
HIGHER
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Clean sweep for old hand

PAUL MILLERSHIP, who as a lad of 15 used to sweep the factory floor of a furniture firm near Ilkeston, Derbyshire, has returned to the company, which now has turnover of £17 million a year, as joint owner. Millership acquired his early insight into the caravan furnishings trade by cutting foam into shape. He left Beauvale Furnishings, part of the Slumberland group, ten years ago to set up a rival firm three miles away in Ilkeston.

The early days were marked with a flurry of solicitors' letters, with Beauvale daunted at the prospect of another rival in the market. But Millership, now aged 46, prospered. His firm, Manor House Furnishings, has a £14 million turnover and, with fellow director Terry Keely, he now heads two firms with a total workforce of 600.

He has never forgotten, however, how tough it was at the bottom. He turned up at Beauvale on his first morning as owner recently — at 6.30 am. The state of the floors is not known.

Joint run out

HERE'S a headline — "New alliance in mining" — on RTZ and De Beers that appears calculated to send the share prices of the two mining conglomerates to the moon. A senior RTZ spokesman says of De Beers: "We see major synergies in the pooling of our resources." But there the excitement ends. For half their fixtures this summer, RTZ and De Beers are combining their cricket teams. It will be interesting to see whether RTZ chairman Sir Derek Birkin allows his batsmen to use miners' hard hats — or



Birkin: new alliance

whether they will

wearing more conventional protective headgear.

Gallie Rike

DOES the successful French captain of industry differ from his British counterpart? On average, he is 56, 5ft 8ins tall, weighs 77.5kg (11st 1lb), puts in an 11-hour day, and receives at least FF2 million (£250,000) a year. But, finds a study in which the Sorbonne University has participated, these bosses are likely to be of comparatively modest background — not the product of one of France's exclusive higher education establishments. And, like Japanese and German industrialists, they tend to have worked their way up through the ranks.

Starter's orders

Starters orders

ONLY members of the Securities Institute and personnel of member firms of the London Stock Exchange may apply, but the lists are now open for the 1995 Derby Sweepstake. Tickets cost £2, 10 per cent of the total take goes to charities, and the draw is on June 5.

COLIN CAMPBELL

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.32	2.18
Austria \$	16.94	16.24
Canada \$	48.74	44.50
Denmark Kr.	2.33	2.14
Germany DM	0.749	0.694
Greece Dr.	5.85	5.41
France F.	0.523	0.495
France F. (Dm.)	2.58	2.39
Italy L.	377.00	322.00
Hong Kong \$	13.05	12.05
Japan ¥	0.08	0.08
Israel ₪	5.249	4.749
Italy L.	2735.00	2550.00
Japan ¥	149.50	133.25
Malaysia M.	0.800	0.545
Netherlands Gld	2.650	2.400
Norway Kr.	10.25	9.25
Portugal Esc.	248.00	227.50
Spain Ptas.	201.00	183.00
Sweden Kr.	12.15	11.35
Switzerland F.	1.98	1.80
Turkey Lira	noter	6771.50
USA \$	1.00	1.51

Rates for British devaluation: bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading.

هكذا من الأصل

Called out to a nasty case of soundbiting

Just as there are soundbite politicians, so there are presentation dramas. Presentation is the BBC department which makes the trailers, and on some days they sing to a and clap their hands, when they get a programme like *BBC's The Ver*. For selecting key moments from *The Ver* is not a hard task: in *The Ver*, the characters speak as though they are permanently in a trailer. "It's years since you worked with thoroughbreds, Jennifer. Maybe you've lost your touch!" "If you think I'm incompetent, then say so!" "I'm not talking about laws, I'm talking about trust!" "I'm being taught horse sense by a townie vet and a woman to boot!" Apart from that, *The Ver* is shifting along, although the problems encountered this week by strident know-all townie vet Jennifer (Suzanne Burden) were pretty well identical to the ones in the first episode: hostility from animal

owners, suspicion from the other vets, carcasses dragged through the mud. As for her central dilemma — will she become a partner in the practice? — I have to report no stimulation to the pulse-rate when this dull question arises. The tension is definitely bearable. Something else, more dramatic, must happen to Jennifer, and pretty soon, I vote for blackmail.

So, *The Ver* gets all the trails ("Your clinical expertise was never in question"), and meanwhile the presentation department finds a tougher assignment in *The Belovs* — a black and white Russian documentary shown as part of Saturday's *Fine Cut* double-bill (BBC2). Were there trails for this amazing film? Or didn't they bother? Arguably, you see, *The Belovs* was hardly amenable to the soundbite treatment, being (a) in Russian, with subtitles, (b) about added peasants who shouted continuous rubbish at each other; and

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Dostoevsky's *Travels*, about an obscure descendant of the great novelist (a tram driver) leaping badly around Europe to save money for a swanky car. Saturday night's *Travelling with Zhirinovskiy* was a similar sort of story, following the itinerary of another vain, stupid con-man, the only difference being that (unfortunately) Vladimir Zhirinovskiy is not as obscure as he ought to be.

Such richness lay all around Simon Schama's *Landscapes and Memory* on BBC2 was niftily replaced by Christopher Frayling's *Strange Landscape*, and another excellent history lesson was painlessly launched. Frayling's subject is the art and philosophy of the Middle Ages; and his presentation is refreshingly gimmick-free. He has time to mention incidental fancy-things such as that Cope Finistone means (of course) the end of the land. At the Church of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem in Rome, he runs us through the array of relics on offer, and with careful authority fills in the biblical context (presumably for the benighted generation who have been taught the irrelevance of the state religion).

The Church of the Holy Cross has a fantastic hoard, incidentally — three bits of the true Cross, two thorns from the crown, a stone from the manger, the notice from the Crucifixion, and the index finger of Doubting Thomas. At Chartres, on the other hand, they took early possession of Mary's maternity tunic — which explains why, as the cult of Mary grew, Chartres got rich and built an enormous cathedral. There never was a cult of Doubting Thomas. The finger languishes in an iron sleeve. It's tough being a relic.

Finally, Paul Kerr's fascinating *The Empire of the Censors* (BBC2) concerned a relic that astonishingly lingers on — the British Board of Film Censors. Last night's first instalment took the story up to 1971, and cleverly adopted a tone of remote social history, so that one was forever thinking, "Thank God that Dark Age is over!" and then remembering that actually it isn't. Linked by Richard E. Grant turning round to talk over the back of his cinema seat (a sorry device: I felt sorry for him) it catalogued each cause célèbre in the censorship of British cinema screens — *Frankenstein*, *Night and Fog*, *Brighton Rock*, *Repulsion*, *The Devils* — and paid tribute to the enlightened intelligence of John Trevelyan. Personally, I had always been puzzled by the cop-out ending of *Brighton Rock*. It turns out that the censor insisted.

On a happier note, Ken Russell described what happened to *Women in Love* when shown in Argentina, where male masturbation was considered unacceptable, even when the bodies belonged to Alan Bates and Oliver Reed. By explaining the offending nudity, the scene started with the men undressing and locking the door, and then cut straight to the same men, damp and exhausted, rolling back off each other in the firelight, with Reed saying: "Too much for you?" Naturally, the audience jumped to its own conclusions.

BBC1

7.00 News (Cee-fax), regional news and weather (0572737) 7.10 *Babar* (r) (4862233) 7.30 *Postman Pat* (s) (1330629)

8.00 News (Cee-fax) and weather (0103294) 8.10 *The Adventures of Dudley* (r) (4070349) 8.30 *Swat Kats* (s) (287161)

9.00 News, regional news and weather (3662078) 9.05 *Conan the Adventurer* (r) (2731894) 9.25 *Active* (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (8962900)

9.55 *Bird in the Nest* (s) (7679707)

10.05 *Playdays* (2531784) 10.25 *Cartoon* (7545233)

10.35 *FILM: Lady Jane* (1985) starring Helena Bonham Carter. An historical drama about Lady Jane Grey. Trevor Nunn directs his first feature film (98181726)

12.50 *Regional News and Weather* (1577792)

1.00 News (Cee-fax) and weather (5841147)

1.10 *Neighbours* (Cee-fax) (s) (16647504)

1.35 *Bird in the Nest* (s) (9880146)

1.40 *FILM: How the West Was Won* (1962) starring Gregory Peck, James Stewart, Henry Fonda, John Wayne, Debbie Reynolds and Carroll Baker. A sprawling five-section western directed by John Ford, Henry Hathaway and George Marshall (9885563)

4.05 *Disney Time*. *Michelle Strachan* introduces a special *Jules Verne* edition (s) (9711455)

4.45 *Bird in the Nest* (s) (149800)

5.15 News (Cee-fax) and weather (9884523)

5.30 *Regional News and Weather* (988455)

5.35 *Neighbours* (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (802558)

6.00 *Red Nose Awards* introduced by Andi Peters (s) (48455)

7.00 *That's Showbusiness*. Entertainment quiz chaired by Mike Smith. (Cee-fax) (s) (4726)

7.30 *Watchdog*. Healthcheck. Medical magazine presented by Judith Hann and Alice Beer. (Cee-fax) (s) (349)

8.00 *Eastenders*. (Cee-fax) (s) (3768)

8.30 *Next of Kin*. Comedy series starring Penelope Keith and William Gatt as reluctant grandparents. (Cee-fax) (s) (2881)

9.00 *FILM: Boomerang* (1992) starring Eddie Murphy and Robin Givens. A comedy about a philandering New York marketing man who meets his match when his new female boss rejects his advances. Directed by Reginald Hudlin. (Cee-fax) (s) (80110726)

10.50 News (Cee-fax), regional news and weather (823252) 11.10 *Bird in the Nest* (s) (503165)

11.15 *FILM: Back to School* (1986) starring Rodney Dangerfield, Sally Kellerman and Burt Young. A comedy about a middle-aged millionaire who joins his son at university where he makes a big impression on his literature lecturer. Directed by Allan Metter. (Cee-fax) (s) (303891)

12.45 *Am. Golf*. Highlights of the final round of the Volvo PGA championship from Wentworth (s) (2311566)

1.25 *Weather* (4079362)

BBC2

6.20 *Open University*

8.00 *FILM: Casanova* (1938, b/w) starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. A study lawyer sends his fiancée, who is having doubts about their wedding, to a psychiatrist with whom she falls in love. Directed by Mark Sandrich. (Cee-fax) (1100894)

9.20 *FILM: Pastor Hall* (1939, b/w) starring Willard Lawson, Nova Pilsbom, Seymour Hicks and Marjorie Goring. An anti-Nazi propaganda film based on the real-life story of Pastor Niemöller. Directed by Roy Boulting (74897897)

10.55 *Golf*. Live coverage of the final round of the Volvo PGA championship from Wentworth (s) (4818894)

12.00 *Monaco Grand Prix*. Highlights of yesterday's race (r) (5348078)

12.45 *FILM: Swing Time* (1936, b/w) starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. A musical delight as Fred falls for Ginger even though he has a fiancée back home. Includes the Oscar-winning song *The Way You Look Tonight*. George Stevens directs. (Cee-fax) (9880252)

2.25 *Golf*. The closing holes of the final round of the Volvo PGA championship (s) (3388097)

NB: subsequent programmes subject to change

5.15 *Wildlife on Two: Passing of the Buck*. A look at the graceful blackbucks (r) (Cee-fax) (s) (5890638)

CHOICE

Bird in the Nest
BBC1, 9.55am, 1.35pm, 4.45pm, 11.00pm

Bill Oddie joins Peter Holden of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for this year's live spectacular from the BBC Natural History Unit. Transmissions up to five days after the next week, come by courtesy of high-tech cameras discreetly hidden where parent birds are bringing up their young. The action will alternate between a rotten tree stump, home of great spotted woodpeckers and their chicks, a nest box housing a family of great tits, the eaves of a roof where starlings will show what good parents they are and a craggy ledge inhabited by peregrine falcons. As darkness falls the focus of attention switches to owls. A phone-in number will be available so that viewers can put their bird queries to the experts.

Children of the Video
BBC2, 8.30pm

The *Forbidden Weekend* season on film censorship reaches an area where censorship has all but collapsed. Videos are classified in the same way as cinema films. But there is nothing to stop small children watching adult material at home and according to a BBC survey, many of them do. A quarter of eight to 11-year-olds regularly sit down in front of films rated 15 or 18. Some of them are interviewed about their viewing habits. Apart from a vicar's daughter, whose parents will not have horror films in the house, these youngsters readily admit to having seen such nasties as *Child's Play* (cited in connection with the Jamie Bulger killing) and *The Silence of the Lambs*. Some wished they hadn't.

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (44813) 9.25 *Win, Lose or Draw* with Bob Mills (s) (8964388)

9.55 *FILM: City Beneath the Sea* (1970) starring Robert Wagner and Susan Whoman. A science-fiction fantasy directed by Irwin Allen (7272271)

11.35 *Warner Brothers Cartoon* (4183900)

11.45 *Home and Away* (Teletext) (886393)

12.15pm *ITN News* (Teletext) and weather (2525368)

12.25 *Coronation Street* (r) (Teletext) (5119233)

12.55 *The Match* — Live. Bob Wilson, with Ron Atkinson, introduces the Endleigh League Division One playoffs final between Bolton Wanderers and Reading from Whiteley. The commentators are Brian Moore and David Peel (8550581)

3.35 *Stuntmasters* (3878344)

4.15 *Home and Away* (r) (Teletext) (142097)

4.45 *FILM: Dr No* (1962) starring Sean Connery as the suave secret agent in the first of the Bond films. With Ursula Andress, making her memorable entrance out of the sea. Directed by Terence Young. (Teletext) (7851349) (Continues at 5.55)

5.40 *ITN News* (Teletext) and weather (885900)

5.50 *London Tonight* (Teletext) and weather (757777)

5.55 *FILM: Dr No* (Continued) (8861726)

7.00 *Get a Life*. Medical magazine (9894)

7.30 *Coronation Street*. (Teletext) (417)

8.00 *Pat of Gales* presented by Des O'Connor, with Liza Goddard and Charlie Chaplin. (Teletext) (1349)

CHANNEL 4

6.35 *Spiff and Hercules* (7944287)

7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (76875)

9.00 *Little Wonders*. Cartoon adventures (r) (54146) 9.30 *California Dreams*. American teen comedy drama (742833)

9.55 *Batman: Pop Goes The Joker*. The Gotham City hero is bemused when the Joker becomes a pop star (5273720) 10.20 *Mork and Minky*. Minkas Mark. American comedy series (r) (1701458)

10.50 *Kelly* (r) (5434438) 11.20 *Puggles' Summer* (r) (4633405) 11.50 *Terrytoons*. Classic Deputy Dawg cartoon (166597)

12.00 *Right to Reply* (r) (Teletext) (82310)

12.30 *Sesame Street* (r) (76981) 1.30 *Mr Men* followed by *Paddington*, *The Wombles* and *Further Tales of the Riverbank* (r) (8330360)

1.55 *Garden Club* visits Plymouth (r). (Teletext) (s) (1275326)

2.25 *Channel 4 Racing* from Sandown Park. Live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05, 3.40 and 4.10 races (s) (1834417)

4.30 *Fifteen to One*. Fast-moving, knock-out general knowledge quiz. (Teletext) (s) (558)

5.00 *Golden Girls*. More comedy from the Miami matrons. This week Dorothy falls in love with a circus performer. With a guest appearance by Dick Van Dyke (r). (Teletext) (s) (300)

5.30 *The Five Mrs Buchanans*. American comedy about four disparate women who share the same domineering mother-in-law. (Teletext) (s) (610)

6.00 *The Cosby Show*. American domestic comedy series (r). (Teletext) (742165). Followed by *News* summary and weather

ASSOCIATED

5.00am News 5.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 6.00 News 6.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 7.00 News 7.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 8.00 News 8.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 9.00 News 9.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 10.00 News 10.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 11.00 News 11.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 12.00 News 12.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 1.00 News 1.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 2.00 News 2.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 3.00 News 3.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 4.00 News 4.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 5.00 News 5.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 6.00 News 6.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 7.00 News 7.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 8.00 News 8.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 9.00 News 9.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 10.00 News 10.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 11.00 News 11.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 12.00 News 12.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 1.00 News 1.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) (1000000) 2.00 News 2.30 *Phil and Cath* (s) 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DRESSING DOWN 38

LOOKING COOL BUT
NOT TOO COOL
IN THE OFFICE

BUSINESS

MONDAY MAY 29 1995

EMPIRE AT WAR 38
BOARDROOM BATTLES
AND FAMILY FEUDS
BEDEVIL LITTLEWOODS

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Private sector making 3% the starting point for pay rises

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THREE per cent is now emerging as the floor for pay rises in the private sector, according to the latest analysis of wage settlements, out today.

Though ministers are comforted by stability in the Government's own figures for average earnings increases — together with other data from employers' associations, such as the Confederation

of British Industry — they are wary about becoming too confident about pay and are watching cautiously for any signs of rising pay deals, which could put pressure on inflation and so increase calls for a further increase in interest rates.

The latest survey, by Incomes Data Services (IDS), an independent pay analyst, suggests that a going "range", rather than a rate, is now running in the private sector. IDS says today that most

pay increases are now at 3 to 4 per cent, with the bottom end of the range a clear floor for increases.

Independent pay data seems to be sending differing signals about pay, with some studies suggesting stability, in line with the Government's figures, and others, such as IDS's, claiming that the jump in inflation earlier this year is maintaining strong upward pressure on pay. IDS says that its figures take account of a larger number of settlements

reached after inflation started to rise, and of deals in areas such as the finance sector, which are currently running at a higher level and so pushing up the overall figures.

In its new study, IDS says: "Most private sector pay awards are keeping up with inflation and a significant minority are well ahead of the current 3.3 per cent inflation rate." Of more than 90 private-sector pay deals in April, 22 give 3 per cent rises and 57 provide for higher

increases, IDS says. "It appears that 3 per cent is emerging as something of a floor for settlements in many parts of the private sector, with more than eight in ten April deals paying 3 per cent or more." The rate of inflation is still the "key influence" on bargaining in the private sector, the study says.

However, IDS contrasts rises in the private sector with public-sector pay increases. Because of the Government's policy of freezing the budgets from which

pay rises are funded, more than two-thirds of public-sector pay awards in April were below 3 per cent.

Railway workers are currently being balloted on a series of one-day strikes over the summer against a 3 per cent pay offer. However, IDS says that only a minority of public-sector deals have been for more than 3 per cent, including rises for some staff covered by pay review bodies and for some councils that have opted out of national pay bargaining.

Creditors go on attack over advisers' fees

By JON ASHWORTH

ACCOUNTANTS and solicitors are bracing themselves for a backlash over "excessive" fees paid in connection with a handful of corporate collapses. Creditors to companies ranging from Polly Peck International (PPI) to Maxwell Communication Corporation are angered that a small number of advisers have collected fees approaching £200 million at their expense.

American holders of PPI bonds are upset over fees associated with the administration of the fruits-to-electronics group, which collapsed in 1990 owing £1.3 billion. SN Phelps, a Connecticut-based firm, has written to the judge presiding over the PPI scheme of arrangement to complain about remuneration awarded to Coopers & Lybrand, the joint administrator. Coopers & Lybrand, Touche Ross, and two law firms have received fees of £37 million so far in connection with the administration. By contrast, the 1.1p in the pound first payout to creditors, due in July, is only worth about £23 million.

Chris Barlow of Coopers & Lybrand, joint administrator of PPI, has consistently defended the level of fees paid. He argues that creditors could

either receive nothing, or pay advisers at professional rates and receive some form of payout. Up to 200 people in several jurisdictions were working on the PPI case at one point. Coopers & Lybrand said yesterday: "This is one of the most difficult administrations that has ever been undertaken. It's not only been very complex, but very dangerous."

Chris Howell, a Coopers & Lybrand employee based in Istanbul, was beaten up and received at least one death threat while working on the PPI case last year. A colleague, David Adams, was shot twice in the leg. Recoveries have been further hampered by court action brought by Asil Nadir, PPI's founder, who fled to northern Cyprus in May 1993, while awaiting trial on theft charges involving £34 million.

Fees linked to the PPI case are set to spiral further on the back of legal action. Stoy Hayward is being sued for up to £400 million in damages over its role as auditor to PPI. A further £70 million claim is outstanding against Citibank.

Touche Ross has separately collected fees of more than £100 million for its work as liquidator of the Bank of Credit and Commerce Inter-

national (BCCI). Touche received fees of £133 million in the first 18 months after BCCI collapsed in July 1991, but remuneration is likely to have tailed off sharply since then. The firm estimated that its fees represented about 1.9p in the pound of creditors' claims. Legal fees in the first 18 months reached \$37.3 million.

A court in Luxembourg cleared the way for a \$1.8 billion settlement for BCCI creditors in January, but payment has been frozen pending an appeal. The appeal process could take up to 10 months, losing creditors an estimated \$300,000 a day in interest, in addition to legal fees.

Price Waterhouse is separately thought to have earned at least £30 million in connection with its role as administrator of Maxwell Communication Corporation (MCC). Creditors of MCC received a first dividend of 19.5p in the pound in March, representing a payout of about £450 million. Recoveries on MCC are expected to reach 35p-43p in the pound, excluding an unquantified amount from ongoing legal action.

□ The trial of Kevin and Ian Maxwell opens at an annex of the Old Bailey on Wednesday. Kevin Maxwell, 36, former chief executive of MCC, and his brother, Ian, 38, former chief executive of Mirror Group Newspapers, are accused of conspiracy to defraud. Two former advisers, Larry Trachtenberg, 42, and Robert Burn, 47, are also accused.



Corporate power: Alan Kirkham, left, European managing director of Mitel Telecom, and Simon Rudolf, chairman of Bowring, Marsh & McLennan, warm up for the Mitel Telecom Challengers Trophy, the annual competition for City finance house executives designed to improve teamwork, communication and leadership skills. Entries close on June 16.

Second chance for Southern

By MARTIN WALLER

SOUTHERN ELECTRIC, one of the 12 regional power companies in England and Wales, is being given a second chance to buy into Australia after a decision by the authorities of the state of Victoria to sell off two more of its utilities.

Southern failed to reach the shortlist to buy United Energy, which is being sold in a trade sale to raise some \$1.2 billion (£545 million), although another British company,

ScottishPower, is among the four potential buyers. However, last week's strong overseas bidding for United prompted Victoria's government to opt for a trade sale for another two of the five businesses being sold, rather than flotation.

Alan Stockdale, the state Treasurer, and Jim Plowman, Energy Minister, said that Eastern Energy and Solaris Power, which serve parts of Melbourne and eastern Victoria, would be the next two power companies to be sold.

"Many bids for United Energy were of extremely high quality, indicating that future trade sales of distribution businesses will also attract strong interest, with considerable scope for Australian participation," they said in a statement.

United is Australia's first candidate in the electricity industry for privatisation, and Southern was sufficiently keen to open an office in Melbourne to handle the bid, joining Australian Gas Light, the local gas distributor, in a 50/50

venture. The company is therefore expected to enter the bidding for the two new privatisation opportunities.

Victoria has said that the final two companies in the \$15 billion sell-off programme will also be sold by the end of the year, but has given no indication how.

The two ministers said that the state government expected to begin the sale process for Eastern Energy and Solaris Power in July, after the sale of United was completed.

Gas wins backing for big pay rises

Most management companies plan to support British Gas's board in a vote on its executive pay policy at its annual meeting on Wednesday.

Resolution 13, urging British Gas to revise its policy, has won so much support from small shareholders that the meeting has been moved from the Barbican to the London Arena.

Alastair Ross Goobey, chief executive of Hermes Pensions Management, formerly Postel, told BBC2's *The Money Programme*: "I accept [BG directors] made a misjudgment about at least part of their remuneration package. But, in total, we do not think that this is so bad as to justify voting against them and effectively giving them a vote of no confidence and risk seeing the board go."

Branson No.1

Richard Branson tops the table of wealth creators in Britain published by *Director*, magazine of the Institute of Directors, today. Mr Branson has amassed £725 million in 26 years — an average growth of £28 million a year. Only four of the top 20 wealth creators went to university.

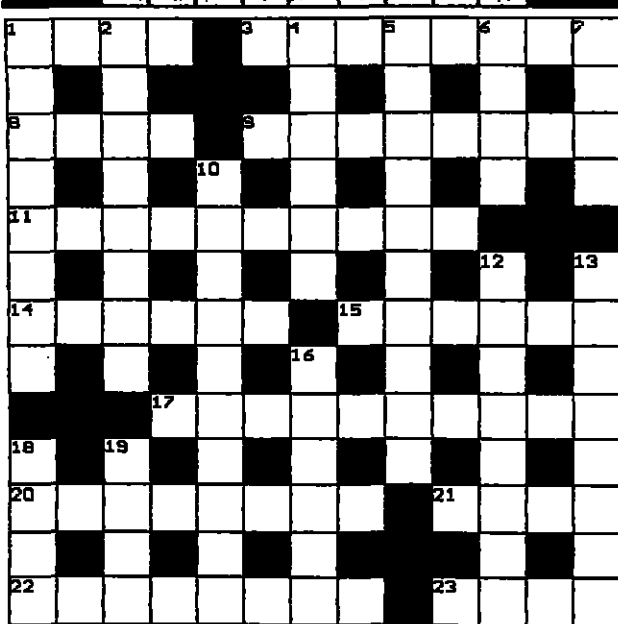
ANC buyout

ANC, the express parcels carrier, has completed a leveraged buyout from its Swedish parent, Securum. The £50 million equity and funding package was financed by Montagu Private Equity and the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Holvis battle

International Paper, the US bidder for Holvis, the Swiss non-woven textiles and paper distributor, will today raise its offer to try to fend off a 500p-a-share counter-bid by BBA, the British engineering group.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 481

ACROSS

- 1 Watering-can sprinkler; type of wine (4)
- 3 London terminus; type of plum (8)
- 8 Strong wind (4)
- 9 Tuscan city, art centre (8)
- 11 Temperature-control device (10)
- 14 Open (wine) (6)
- 15 Expel (lawyer) (6)
- 17 Having faulty lens in eye (10)
- 20 In its third stage (8)
- 21 Jab; old bonnet (4)
- 22 Endurance; card game (8)
- 23 Flower; rainbow goddess (4)

DOWN

- 1 Proper, just (8)
- 2 Ability to meet debts (8)
- 4 Maltreat (3-3)
- 5 Solid ground (5,5)
- 6 Surround; band (4)
- 7 Assent (4)
- 10 Creating memorable effect (10)
- 12 Slaughterhouse (8)
- 13 Mad; biscuits (8)
- 16 (Acid) derived from orange, lime etc (6)
- 18 Cease; deduct from pay (4)
- 19 Hard stone particles (4)

SOLUTION TO SPRING HOLIDAY JUMBO

ACROSS: 1 Peabody 5 Fleance 9 Substantian 15 Administrator 16 Rhino 17 Bullion 18 Spanula 20 Rubbish 21 Maylor 22 Wino 24 Beat the living daylight out of 26 Listening 28 Herculeanism 31 Adder 32 Tidal 34 Stupefaction 35 Sephardi 39 Garden flat 41 Tactful 43 Uplight 46 Arrange 47 Unneat 51 Moot points 53 Lawgiver 55 Straight face 56 Fudge 59 Nepal 61 Countenance 62 Retrieval 64 Eat someone out of house and home 68 Flop 69 Secure 70 Scruple 71 Heads up 73 Arraign 74 Toast 75 Granddaughter 77 Shirtsleeve 78 Resolve 79 Tutored

DOWN: 1 Plausibility 2 Aim 3 Banquette 4 Gestate 5 For crying out loud 6 Establishment 7 Nursing 8 Earth 9 Seismal 10 Bopdigger 11 Arboretum 12 Aisle 13 Initiated 14 Nonconformists 15 Amassed 23 Potash 25 Aquatic 27 Insincere 29 Roast 30 Aloof 33 Laden 36 Equipment 37 Right 38 Cleopatra's Needle 40 Arrow 42 Ain 44 Thief 45 Fall on deaf ears 48 Motet 49 Against 50 Tigon 51 Mother-of-pearl 52 Well-tempered 54 Igloos 57 Devious 58 Turn turtle 60 Pot-pourri 61 Co-eternal 63 Indraught 65 Operate 66 Forages 67 Ashwari 70 Star 72 Gist 76 Tor

Key day for Clarke trade visit

KENNETH CLARKE will today take his campaign to boost Anglo-Indian business links and improve City institutions' access to India to Narasimha Rao, the Indian Prime Minister (Colin Narbrough writes).

On an 11-day visit to India, accompanied by from leaders from Britain's financial and business service sectors, the Chancellor will also hold talks in Delhi today with Manmohan Singh, the Finance Minister. Mr Clarke is then due to visit Calcutta, Bombay and Bangalore, the main financial centres.

The delegation hopes to persuade the Indian authorities to make greater use of British expertise in privatisation and deregulation, especially in the financial services sector.

ICI is doubling its paint production in India with the construction of a £7.5 million plant near Bombay.

Blyth heads for £1m as Boots lifts profits

By JON ASHWORTH

SIR James Blyth, chief executive of Boots, is thought to be the latest executive to have seen his remuneration soar to more than £1 million last year, on the back of a bonus scheme linked to total shareholder return. Figures to be released this week should show that his pay package increased by up to 50 per cent in 1994-95, from £676,000 in the previous financial year. The disclosure is likely to fuel the debate over the pay of senior executives.

A Boots spokesman said that Sir James's remuneration would be affected by a bonus scheme set up in 1991, which kicked in for the first time last year. His remuneration had been static for the previous two years. Figures due on Thursday are expected to show that Boots lifted pre-tax profits to £525 million, from £484 million in the previous financial year. Last year's £500 million



Blyth: pay leap expected

shares buyback is thought to have boosted earnings per share by as much as 20 per cent.

The 1,200-strong Boots the Chemist chain is thought to have held up well against high street competition, and the prospects of the Do It All joint venture with WH Smith appear to be improving.

Unifi walkout ends 80-year tradition

Barclays braced for strike

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

SOME branches of Barclays Bank will be closed tomorrow because of a one-day strike called by the banking unions, Unifi and Bifu.

The bank, which has more than 2,000 branches, said: "We expect the vast majority to be open but it is inevitable that some will close."

The unions say that up to 500 branches will close. The strike follows the imposition of a 2.75 per cent pay rise in

March after staff had rejected this amount in February. Unifi, which says that the rise is the fourth sub-inflation award in as many years, is demanding 5 per cent or £600, whichever is greater.

The turnout for Unifi's ballot was 27.5 per cent, with 58 per cent voting for a strike. Bifu had a 30 per cent turnout with 52 per cent backing strike action. Membership of the two unions accounts for two thirds of Barclays' staff. Barclays said yesterday:

"This year's pay award is very fair and competitive and recognises the considerable contribution made by its staff."

Tomorrow will be the first time that Unifi, which has represented staff at Barclays for 80 years, has taken strike action. Bifu called its members out in 1984 for half a day when the bank decided to extend opening hours on Christmas Eve to the whole day instead of the usual practice of closing at noon. Then 11 branches closed.

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